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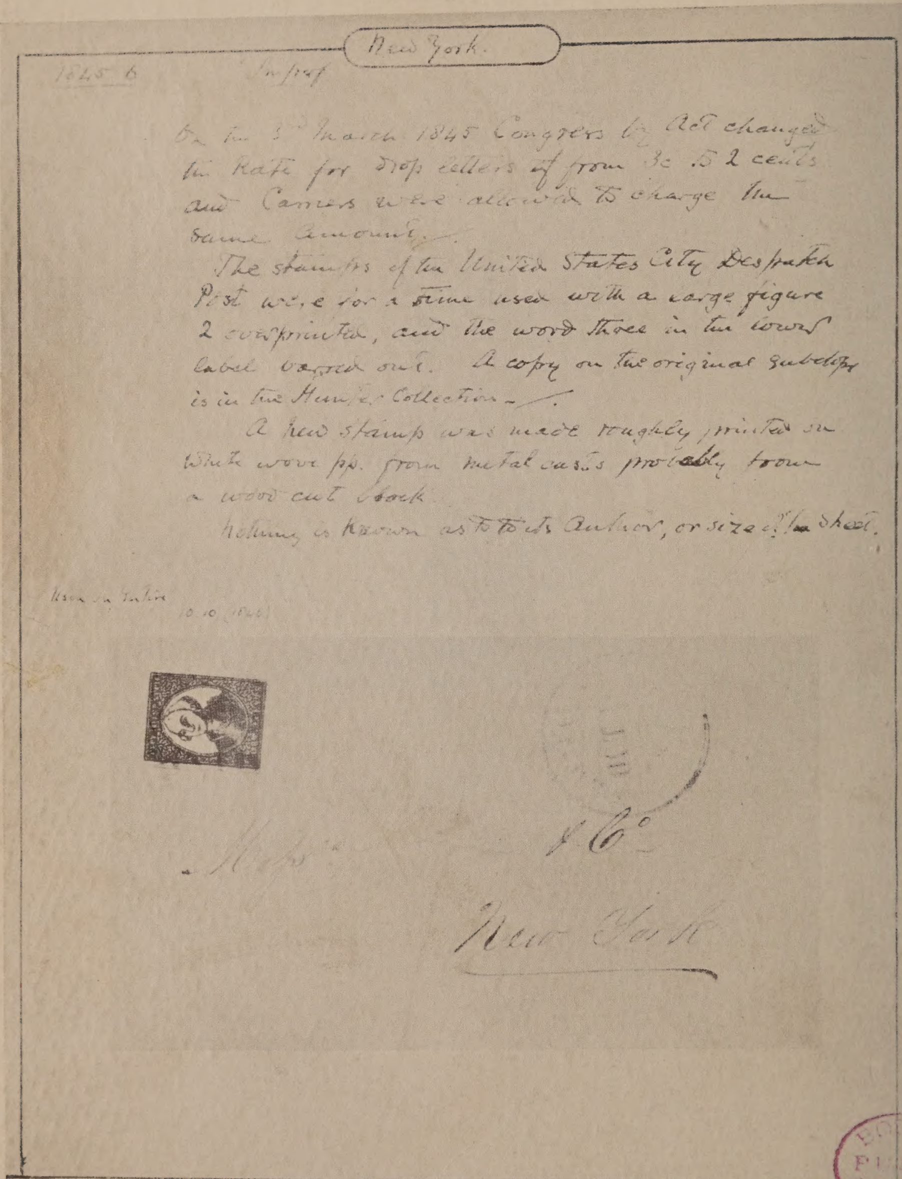

New York.

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On the 3rd March 1845 Congress by Act changed the Rate for Drop letters of from 3c to 2 cents and Carriers were allowed to charge the same amount.

The stamps of the United States City Despatch Post were for a time used with a large figure 2 overprinted, and the word three in the lower label erased out. A copy on the original envelope is in the Hunter Collection.

A new stamp was made roughly printed on white wove pp. from metal casts probably from a wood cut block.

Nothing is known as to its Author, or size of the sheet.

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New York

A PAGE FROM LORD CRAWFORD'S COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES STAMPS SHOWING HIS METHOD OF WRITING UP HIS COLLECTION

POSTAGE STAMPS
AND
THEIR COLLECTION

BY

WARREN H. COLSON

A Series of Handbooks Describing
the Great Collectors and
Collections of the
World

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NUMBER ONE
THE BOWERS COLLECTION

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR
1907

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The Berkeley Press
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TO PHILATELY

PRESIDED OVER BY THAT KINDLY GODDESS
WHO OFFERS THE PANACEA FOR ALL
MENTAL ILLS THIS LITTLE WORK
IS MOST HUMBLY DEDICATED.

INTRODUCTION.

Of the many advantages to be derived from a hobby of some sort it seems hardly necessary to speak, but a few words may be said on the hobby of stamp collecting, which by many, nowadays, has been reduced to a science.

Intelligent collecting of anything—stamps, coins, books, objects of art, or the like—is to be commended, whether a man confines himself by force of circumstances or choice, to a limited field, or whether he feels at liberty and induced to cover a larger territory. And this commendation of stamp collecting is due not only because of the solace and enjoyment that it gives a man, tired by the day's duties, but also to the increase in knowledge of history, geography, and politics, which march hand in hand with his increasing interest in the technical side of his subject. On the other side, there are two kinds of collecting to be deprecated; the mere striving for numbers or amount; and the purchase of stamps from a purely mercenary point of view.

Of the special school to be followed in collecting stamps, each collector must take his own choice, being governed by his means and desires. However, it is safe to say that he is a courageous man who, today, starts out to make a general collection of stamps from the first, even along narrow lines. Specializing is becoming, if it has not already become, the order of the day, and in stamp collecting this is almost inevitable to a greater or lesser degree. From the mere law of supply and demand, this specializing is obviously bound to increase as time goes on.

To the stamp collecting public commendation of this little book and its author seems almost superfluous. As a close student of stamps for many years, not only in business, but as a collector, Mr. Colson is admirably fitted to write on the subject he has chosen. It is a pleasure to wish him and his book the success that both deserve.

F. APTHORP FOSTER.

CHAPTER I.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE—A COLLECTOR.

THE student of human nature is often bewildered by the strange fads and fancies which seize upon men in the various stages of their careers, yet if he could go behind the scenes; if he could peer into the soul of a man, or follow him about in the toil of a day, he would no doubt find much not only to excuse, but more to uphold in this modern search for something which is aside from the usual vocation, and which combines interest, novelty, and pleasure in large degree. All this is within the experience of those, who, turning aside from the cares of business, have found relief and relaxation, even an increase of power, in the pursuit of the hobbies which men follow in these later days.

This is peculiarly true of philately—a hobby to be sure, and yet a hobby which has engaged the interest of prince and peasant, king and liegeman, indeed, the greatest and lowliest of earth. That stamp collecting should so beguile the hours of the lofty and the lowly, the old and the young, is not strange to any student of the subject, for collecting in its various forms has been one of the great interests of men in all ages. It is one of the best methods extant for extending our knowledge of men in their relations to men, showing in what seems to be obscure and trivial, many things of large and permanent value.

Even the child, before life's purposes are formed, before life's work is begun, cannot escape the fascination of a pursuit which in later life may dominate the man. It is not difficult for us to remember our earliest attempts at this fascinating pursuit. Money was rarer then than it is now, and far more difficult to secure. Stamps were rarer still, and even more difficult to make our own. Then, the size and the color had very much to do with the worth of a specimen. Surely our ideas of value were primitive to the extreme.

However, those days are gone never to return. In these later years we can but wonder at the tremendous, we might almost say revolutionary, changes that have taken place in this favorite pursuit. Today we find collectors in every walk of life, although as a rule they are found more largely among men of culture. This is inherent in the necessities of the case, as philately appeals rather to the intellectual and æsthetic than to the aggressive spirit that would dominate the outer world, but would care little for the nutrition of the inner man. And yet many collectors are so well balanced that it is possible for them to engage in the almost Titanic struggles of business, politics, and society, and still be able to appreciate the pleasures of more restful and recreative hours. Every blue book, every social register of highest standing, contains names prominent not only in society, finance and statesmanship, but also in philately. The two are found very commonly together.

Were we asked to explain why men of such high standing take up a hobby, seemingly uninteresting and valueless, we should doubtless have to reply that they find in it a very real need of their being—soothing comfort and rest for the close of the day. In a word, that it gives the mind the complete change it must have; gives the man a new live interest, when business palls, bringing with it a new lease of life and renewal of power for the larger activity of the world.

It is well within one's memory that a great lawyer speaking of philately once said: "Some years ago I was engaged on a case that required all of my powers of brain and body for its solution. I had been studying its various complications with such unremitting ardor that it seemed almost impossible to marshal thought in anything like a logical fashion. Suddenly I realized that continued application had simply tangled a tired brain. I was on the point of giving up for the day when, happily, my eyes chanced to rest on one of the volumes of my collection. Brushing aside the legal papers with their labyrinthal complications, I took up the book and lost myself in its absorbing pages. From the beautiful franc vermilion, on past a few interesting tete-beches, I turned the pages. Rows of softly blending shades lay before me like the lines of some priceless variegated flower. The types of the Bordeaux next came to view, then a few interesting envelopes with that all-meaning inscription, 'Par ballon monte,' with historical notes taking me back in fancy to those grim days of '70 when all Paris trembled in despair. Here indeed was relief for any man, and I found it. Gradually the heat left my brain; slowly the tense muscles relaxed; a feeling of quiet entered in where turmoil, even chaos had reigned, and soon I laid aside the book and turning once more to my problem—with head clear and brain cool—I solved it." In like manner a leading American banker spends hours of his evenings repairing the wasted energy of the day's work through the pleasure gained from his collection. Here also captains of industry—men of large intellect and tremendous influence,—find an outlet for the powers not demanded entirely by their work. Here they find rest and quiet, and pleasure, not in the empty and unsatisfying life of society, but rather through the wholesome and vitalizing study of philately. Of necessity there can be but one answer to the question, "To be or not to be—A Collector."

CHAPTER II.

THE OLD AND THE NEW.

COLLECTING was born early in the fifties when the only incentive was the desire of possession. At this early period there were practically no requirements with regard to the condition of the specimens, a fact that is well illustrated by some of the early dealers who showed stamps for the purpose of exhibition and sale, affixing them to boards by numerous tacks. In other words, during this early period, a stamp, good, bad or indifferent, was nothing more nor less than a stamp. The philatelic mind of those early years grasped but one idea—to have and to hold. Many present-day collectors are passing through this stage of thought and experience,—it is to be hoped into the light of a brighter era.

The first advance in the methods of the old-time collector came through his endeavor to secure a more lightly cancelled specimen, that he might the more easily distinguish the design. After this slight and perhaps unconscious stride toward "condition," he was no longer satisfied with the specimens of his early days. Thus the demand for stamps in better condition began.

After a few years of progress, when the more particular collectors became known as "condition cranks," they also began to discover some of the minor differences hitherto overlooked.

These differences lay in perforation or in the size of watermarks. Sometimes also by the aid of secret marks, different printings were discovered. Yet granting that these minor varieties were worthy of collection, and accepting them at their full value, it is not difficult to see that the limits of the old methods were soon reached—mere possession could not long suffice any man. The point is clear when it is said, that in the main, the "old school" collector's motive was simply this—possession. The desire of acquisition is laudable—possession is helpful—yet the interest of mere possession soon waned. Something more was needed if we were to secure from this noblest recreative hobby the interest, joy and even power that it should afford. That which is needed comes as surely as night follows day. There was no exception to the rule in the case we are considering. So today we have in place of the old school—the new.

In the "new school" which has been developing slowly during the past few years, an idea finds expression that collectors of much experience have just begun to appreciate. Today connoisseurs in every line hold as their ideal, the specimen in perfect condition. How quickly the collector of netsukis learns to separate the delicately wrought from the poorly executed pieces. How soon another, examining the coins of antiquity, delights to come upon an almost perfect specimen dating from the time of Trajan or Nero. Even when we secure our relaxation through out-of-door sport—the feeling of a well-balanced racquet—one that "fits"—what a satisfaction! And so through all the varied forms of life activity, we find perfection of form and condition to be the *sine qua non.*

But the collector of the new school goes back farther than his predecessor. The men of the older school, contented with possession, never considered the history of the various stamps for which they sought long and eagerly. Today a larger interest is added to this fascinating hobby when we remember that men of the new school are not only mindful of the delights of possession and of perfect condition, but find ever widening interest in the study of philatelic genesis and development.

How absorbing the passion for collecting becomes when first we consider the necessities of civilization, which carry us in imagination from the time of picture writing on the rocks, of signal fires on the hills, of messengers mounted and afoot to this more complex day, when our words of warning or of greeting, of friendly fellowship or love are cared for by a strongly centralized government whose emblem, the stamp, is affixed to every message. So in a very real sense, each stamp sums up in itself the progress of the race since time began.

But not only is there great interest in those necessities which make of the stamp a most helpful adjunct to the communication of men, but we find also our interest deepening as we come to consider the stamp in the various stages of its history, from the first rude specimens to the later and more perfect illustrations of the engraver's art. In this fascinating study we may follow the birth and development of the stamp from the first rough sketch in pencil to the finished example of all that is finest and best in the philatelic art. And this is what the new school seeks to do. The new method is distinctly scientific and thus in accord with the spirit of the age. Facts are sought, not only for themselves, but that they may show the relation of the stamp under study to the history and geography of the country to which it belongs. Stamp collecting, considered thus broadly, might even lead to the acquisition of foreign languages—to a knowledge of customs—laws—as well as relations national and international, turning what began merely as a hobby into the apparatus and method for the acquirement of a liberal education. Nothing is more promising to the student of this fascinating hobby than this trend to the broader, rather than to the narrower view. Such a development should serve to arrest a certain tendency, noticeable in philately, to drift in the direction of the merely mercenary, of which we hear so much, and bring this noble art back to a more sane and æsthetic appraisal of values. It is always possible to hear very much concerning the collector and the gains, that are supposed rightly or wrongly to spur him on. More should be heard about the collector who is interested in philately not so much for the opportunity for gain, even though it may be present, as for the charm and fascination of this pursuit—at once quiet and restful, uplifting and instructive, and ever assuring him the company of the earth's greatest and best.

Until this newer method of collecting arose, the great interest in stamps lay in possession. In some cases at least, the strife for a large collection became a mania, though frequently the scantiness of income prevented such a result. Under such conditions, is it any wonder that collecting lost some of its vital interest, and as largeness of possession seemed the goal, and a large fortune was necessary to reach it, interest lessened when money failed?

To the contrary, if we are to collect not only for the stamps themselves, not only for any financial value they may have for us, but more particularly for what they mean in history, geography and allied subjects, then the hobby, dormant in the soul, will be invested with a larger and deeper interest, and only then shall we see the development of a real and painstaking scholarship in philately.

One of the ablest representatives of the old-school men, in the ante-scientific days of stamp collecting—one who collected simply for his own edification and without thought of possible gain, is Dr. W. C. Bowers. Although one of the "old guard," he had ideas far in advance of his day. Endowed with the instinct of the true collector, he learned very early the value of the fine specimen, and thus, although the collection in its method of treatment is surely of the "old school," it is one of the finest illustrations of the method extant. In later chapters a full description of this magnificent and extremely interesting collection will be given.

When we turn from the old to the new school, we think very naturally of the few among the world's foremost collectors who follow this method. Among these none is more prominent than Lord Crawford of England, who, in all probability, has one of the six greatest collections in the world. In the frontispiece there appears an illustration, reproduced by courteous permission, from Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal, of a page from his wonderful United States collection as shown at the last exhibition in London. This page out of a great collection shows better than any words can tell the method followed by the student collector of today. The idea of giving with the stamp its history as well is a most happy one, and adds materially to the value of a collection both from the standpoint of interest and philatelic scholarship.

However, it is hardly feasible for the average collector to carry this newer method into general collecting. The method is so much more intensive that the most valuable results will be secured through specializing. This is in accordance with the spirit of the time in which we live. The specialist is the great man, and he is great because he has mastered his specialty. Life is short and wealth not common, and this more virile method, the method of the specialist, must inevitably prevail. Under such circumstances, it is natural that the tendency in philately should be away from the general, and toward the specific in collecting. It is not absolutely necessary that this newer method be pushed to the extreme. The philatelic millenium is not here and may not be for many years, and yet the well informed, the accurate, the careful, the studious collector, as far as his time and means permit, will give it expression wherever possible. To quote an ancient authority: "When that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away."

CHAPTER III.

AMONG AMERICAN COLLECTORS.

MANY of America's largest collectors are found among "Captains of Industry." These leaders of men and re-organizers of industry are still in the thick of the battle. Their days are strenuous in the extreme, hence they have not always developed their collections along the newer and more scientific method, more common abroad than here. But this tendency in these later days is distinctly perceptible, and some of the favorite countries in our larger and more general collections are highly specialized and well written up. This is very noticeable in the United States collection owned by George H. Worthington, Esq., of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Worthington is known by name, at least, wherever stamps are collected, as having the largest and most valuable collection in this country, and possibly second largest in the world. However, attempts to place the world's finer collections in their real and absolute order of merit are always unsatisfactory, as they may be of very different character, and hardly subject to comparison at all. It is enough to say that Mr. Worthington has one of the finest and largest collections in the world.

It is always interesting, even in a brief sketch, to note some of the more important pieces in the larger collections. Speaking of the Worthington collection in this respect, may be noted an envelope bearing the remarkable combination of a two-cent Hawaiian Missionary, the five-cent of the same issue and a pair of the three-cent U. S. 1851. This is undoubtedly the only copy known of the two-cent Missionary on the cover, and therefore it is a rarity in the highest degree. Another beautiful cover bears two superb copies of the one-penny Post-Office Mauritius, as unique in its way as the Hawaiian Missionary cover. Still another envelope bears a remarkable block of four of the one-penny Cape of Good Hope woodblock—one of which is the four-pence error. This is doubtless unique, and has for a background one of the finest, if not the finest "Cape" collection in existence. Mr. Worthington prizes highly the only unused copy known of the U. S. fifteen-cent 1869, with inverted medallion, and, as a companion piece he has the thirty-cent in like condition, but of this there are three other copies known to the world of philately. Among his rare Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals may be seen all the rare Baton Rouge; a ten-cent Beaumont, on pink paper; the Emory, Va.; Grove Hill, Alabama; the rare Macons and a particularly fine lot of the Texas locals of which but very few are known. These latter include several of the rare Goliads, the Helena and the two very rare Victorias. He is also deeply interested in blocks of four, and of these he has many that are beautiful and rare. Probably the finest piece in this line is a beautiful unused o. g. block of four of the 1d. plate I, Sydney View. This specimen has for a fitting setting many luxurious pieces of the same order. It may be said that, with the exception of possibly half a dozen, all of the world's rarities are present in this collection.

One of the less active of our largest collectors is Mr. James W. Paul, Jr., of Philadelphia. He has been a quiet collector for many years, and today has one of the finest collections to be found in the country. For years he enjoyed the distinction of owning the only two-cent Hawaiian Missionary in an American collection. He has been a thorough student of philately, and plates a great many of the countries which admit of such treatment. Perhaps the best examples of his skill are seen in the type-set British Guiana and Hawaii and the engraved and lithographed issues of Nevis. He has shown also great partiality to Australians, having a very complete collection which includes even the greatly neglected South Australian Departmentals. In other countries he has made notable strides. Among the rarities of his collection is a fine copy of the 81 p Moldavia, and also the four-pence blue South Australia, without surcharge.

No city ranks higher in philatelic circles than Philadelphia, and among the collectors who have made the city famous, none have been better known than Col. Robert C. H. Brock, whose untimely decease occurred a year ago last summer. In the earlier days of collecting, Col. Brock did much for the upbuilding of philately, and when active was one of our foremost collectors. Many of the rarities in American collections today testify to their source by the words "Brock Sale" on the reverse. He was known also as a philatelic author through his early monograph on that most interesting specialty—the Sydney Views. Ever deeply interested in collecting—philately lost a devoted follower when he passed away. The old phrase "once a collector, always a collector," was never better illustrated than in his life. After the disposal of his first collection—doubtless the finest of the time—he began again the old pursuit in a more moderate fashion, which he continued until the later days of his life. The result of his later activity in philately is to be preserved in the form of a permanent memorial to his memory.

It is a long stride from Philadelphia to San Francisco, but even there we find two very important collections. At the recent London Exhibition Henry J. Crocker, Esq., secured one of the two gold cups by exhibiting his marvelous collection of Hawaii. This richly deserved reward attests to the quality of the collection better than pages of description could possibly do. It is undoubtedly one of the finest specialized collections of any country in the world and is of absorbing interest to the student specialist. The rarest stamp shown in the entire London Exhibition, the two-cent Missionary, Die I, is found in this collection, among fourteen other missionaries, and several hundred numerals serve as a background for these master rarities. Even with this wealth of Hawaii, his other countries are not neglected—his U. S. containing reconstructed plates of the St. Louis stamps, the Millbury, Brattleboro and other early postmasters' stamps. Mr. Crocker was unfortunate in losing several valuable volumes in the disastrous San Francisco fire, but those remaining represent one of the finest collections in the country.

The other large collection is that of W. H. Crocker, Esq. It contains many notable pieces, and is particularly praiseworthy for its superior condition. Among Mr. Crocker's favorites are fine plates of Sydney Views. These, although not as yet complete, are exceptional copies, and far above the average. There is hardly a collection in the country, that better exemplifies the spirit of the true collector, in his demand for perfection of condition, than this. Those who have been so fortunate as to see some of these volumes, have learned, if never before, to what extent the modern collector prizes quality rather than quantity. This collection has been developed along general lines, and many rare pieces are seen. Among the better things are a magnificent used block of four of the U. S. twenty-four cent 1869, inverted medalion; a most beautiful copy of the Millbury on the cover; a specimen of the very rare four-cent sugar paper of British Guiana, and many other noted rarities.

But turning from the noted collectors and collections of San Francisco with the speed of thought, we find ourselves in Syracuse, N. Y., the home of John F. Seybold, Esq., one of the great American leaders in the art of philately. Mr. Seybold has a record of which no man need be ashamed. From the day, when as a boy, he first entered the ranks of the collectors, till now, he has never parted with a stamp. Almost all collectors go through two or three collecting experiences, disposing of their collections again and again, only to come back to the old love after a few years of rest, and begin once more the long but interesting climb to the heights of philatelic power. Then they find that many of the old treasures familiar even in boyhood, are beyond their reach. Mr. Seybold, as a result of the continuous and thorough method followed, now enjoys what is truly a wonderful collection,—impossible to him or to anyone else, except through the continuous persistency of many years.

Although he has many fine things off the envelope, he is much better known through his collection of stamps used on the original cover, which includes many remarkable pieces. Among the best may be mentioned two 12d., Canada each on a separate envelope; a very fine Brattleboro on the cover, and a pair of five-cent St. Louis on the envelope. Then comes a very beautiful piece in the shape of two fine Nova Scotia shillings, a six-pence and three-pence, all used on one envelope; also three exceptional Nova Scotia shillings on a piece of the original cover. Following these come two very fine strips of four of the five-cent New York—both on covers—one containing the double-line variety. The Hawaiian issues have earned his ardent appreciation, and he has many of the fine old numerals used on letters. Old Germans and Swiss on the cover, each in wonderful combinations, fairly bewilder even the advanced collector who knows the raræ aves of philately.

At the recent London Exhibition, Charles L. Pack, Esq., of Cleveland was awarded a gold medal on his collection of Canada. This country, as well as the other British North American provinces, forms his objective point. Among his Canadian stamps are seven of the twelve-pence Canada, including pairs, both unused and used—a truly marvelous showing. In Newfoundland he has all of the scarlets both unused and used. The rare shilling orange on laid paper is also present, and in New Brunswick, three of the Connells. Aside from his many fine things in British North America, his collection of Australian stamps is assuming large proportions,—the New South Wales section containing over two hundred magnificent Sydney Views.

No sketch of American collectors, however brief, would be complete without including a reference to that typical American to whom philately owes so much—Francis C. Foster, Esq., of

Boston. Although in his seventy-ninth year, he may still be found actively engaged in the management of his estate, serving in many positions of trust, and as director of many of our large institutions. A collector since 1859, he has followed his bent all these years until his philatelic possessions, as they were a few years ago, ranked second among the collections of the country, only surpassed in value by the Ayer collection. Both these collections, however, are exceeded in value today by the Worthington collection. A few years ago Mr. Foster parted with his British Colonials and Europeans, and today his collection embraces only United States and possessions, and British North America. His Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals are in themselves one of the finest lots in existence. Among the more prominent of the rarities are the Athens five-cent red, on cover; Goliad, five and ten-cent black on grayish; Greenwood, Virginia; Kingston, Tennessee; that master rarity—the Livingston, Alabama; a fine selection of Macons; five and ten-cent Marion, Virginia, on covers, and many others that cannot now be mentioned. A perfect set of the premieres gravures, 1861, are in the regular United States. This country is highly specialized as to shades. The postmasters' locals contain the very famous eleventh type of the Brattleboro which, by the way, cost Mr. Foster the munificent sum of sixty cents. It would be difficult to value this particular copy today, as it is thought to be the engraver's first production and so used as a sample for engraving the other ten. Only one or two impressions may have been taken from it—thus it is of the greatest interest and value. His Hawaiian collection is a joy to the student of these most interesting issues. In this section we find the only completely re-constructed plate of the two-cent black on blue-gray known—the plate in the famous Crocker collection, being short one position.

After speaking of Mr. Foster and his postmasters' locals, it is but natural to turn to the fine selection of these stamps, owned by that well-known student, H. E. Deats, Esq., of Flemington, N. J. Here we have the finest lot of postmasters' locals extant. Although a young man, Mr. Deats has made a deep impression on world-wide philately. That standard work on the "Postage Stamps of the United States" by John N. Luff refers continually to Mr. Deats' exceptional collection, and the beautiful plates of St. Louis used in illustrating this book are reproduced from the plates in his collection. We find here the only known copy of the Boscawen, N. H., Postmasters' stamp, this being the rarest United States postage stamp. It is not generally known that this stamp was probably issued by Worcester Webster, a relative of Daniel Webster. This rare "postmaster" is one of the most primitive and accordingly highly interesting types of the adhesive stamp known. The collection of revenue proofs, both of the regular Government issues and the private M. & M., is practically the only one of its kind in the world. It is unique in that all the records, as shown by the books of the contractors, are in the hands of a private individual. Aside from the wonderful collection of proofs of all the regular revenue series, many of them in full sheets, there is a most interesting volume—the one book of the contractor in which were kept the original working proofs with notes concerning each of the many private die stamps. This book, of necessity, is unique, and in itself is practically a priceless possession. As an authority on philatelic literature, Mr. Deats is without a peer in the country, and his library doubtless ranks next to that of the Earl of Crawford.

One of the beautiful collections of the country is that of Wm. H. Sussdorff, Esq., of New York. This is composed entirely of unused stamps in very fine condition. Mr. Sussdorff is a general collector rather than a specialist, and has a finely representative collection in almost every country. Among the fine pieces are a mint, never-been-hinged copy of the three lire Tuscany; also a beautiful pair of the five-cent British Columbia imperforate unused, which is of equal interest.

But no enumeration of great collectors is complete, however hurriedly done, unless the name of Dr. W. C. Bowers of Bridgeport, Conn., is considered. The collection itself, already mentioned as a striking example of the older method of collecting, will be dealt with at length in the following chapter.

CHAPTER IV.

THE BOWERS COLLECTION.

IT is always interesting to learn how various collectors took the first few halting steps in philately, and how from the faint, far-away beginnings of immaturity, they went forward to a future of renown. A small beginning, a bravely persistent continuation, and a glorious end as the possessor of one of America's greatest collections, tells the story of Dr. Bowers and his great work in the field of philately. It was 'way back in '62 that Dr. Bowers, a boy of eleven years, formed the nucleus of his collection—just eight stamps. These were given him by his father, the president of the Hartford Insurance Company. But this careless gift, slight as it may be, was fraught with tremendous consequences. This initiation into a most fascinating pursuit, gave the Doctor a life purpose of no mean value—an avocation for the hours when the tired nerves of the physician demand release from toil. After his early education he entered Yale College from which he was graduated with an A. B. in the class of 1874, only to enter Columbia Medical College, New York, from which he won an M.D. in 1877.

During all these years he had kept up his collection, which was first mounted in a small blank exercise book. In 1869 this was thrown aside for his first printed album, a Scott of that year. After securing his M. D. he was connected for two years with the Charity Hospital, New York City. After that he removed (in 1879) to Bridgeport, where he has practiced ever since. Today he is one of the best known and most prominent physicians of the city. During his five years' stay in New York City in college, and later in the hospital, he purchased many pieces which are the fine things of today, and at prices which, in this age, seem to be ridiculously low. One day he called upon J. W. Scott, who offered him a block of six of the U. S. three-cent scarlet of 1862 at the then enormous price of $1.00 each. He thought the price rather high, so he bought but one, but that one, by the way, could hardly be improved upon. In those days Hawaiian numerals were not rated as highly as now, so the Doctor secured a very fine copy of the one-cent on laid paper showing the error "HA———" for $3.00, and at about the same time paid $1.50 for a superb, unused, o. g. copy of the one-cent pale blue on thin bluish. Of his early experiences it may be well to note that his five shilling St. Vincent, watermarked "star," cost him $1.85, and the four-pence on one-shilling, $6.50; also that he paid $9.50 for an unsevered pair of the one-penny on six-pence St. Vincent unused. In many other countries similar purchases at equally advantageous prices were made. Almost any collector would pay gladly $2.50 for a pair of the four-pence on two-shillings Grenada, one being the upright figure 4, as Doctor Bowers was fortunate enough to do, many years ago. He also secured the high values of the Lagos 1885 set, paying $1.65 for the two-shilling six pence; $2.55 for the five-shilling, and $4.20 for the ten-shilling. The Doctor has always collected largely by himself, and did not become as well known as many others of the prominent collectors of the day. However, in the London Exhibition of 1897 he exhibited his New South Wales, winning a bronze medal in his class, and also a special medal was awarded him for having the best collection of Sydney Views. Since then, however, he has collected very quietly.

Description of the Bowers Collection.

PART I.

Opening the volume of U. S. at the Postmasters' provisionals, we find a handsome copy of the five-cent Baltimore on white, used on the entire, followed by a superb copy of the Brattleboro[1] No. 5 on the plate, with sheet margin at top and right. Below the Brattleboro is a very good copy of the rare Millbury.[1] This is a very fine appearing specimen as the illustration shows. The only defect is a crease from the careless folding of the envelope on which it was used. As in all probability there are not more than twelve Millburys known, and at least two of them are cut to shape, it will be seen that this is in reality an unusual copy. The gem of the U. S., however, is a very fine cut square copy of the red New Haven[1] envelope, with signature also in red. It has been said that there are but four copies of this envelope known—one entire, and three cut square. Of the three cut squares, this is certainly the finest copy. The three different reprints of this envelope are also shown.

It is not generally known that the five-cent black New York stamp was ever authorized for use elsewhere, but such was the case. In the "Metropolitan Philatelist" for March, 1894, F. W. Hunter, Esq., says: "During the year 1846, Mr. Morris (postmaster of New York) sold the five-cent black New York to the postmasters of Boston, Washington, Albany and Philadelphia. . . . Cave Johnson, the postmaster-general of the United States under President James K. Polk, authorized and directed the sale of the stamps to the postmasters of the above mentioned cities. The stamps were only to be sold for use on letters directed to New York City. When affixed to letters they were to be treated as unpaid by their respective postmasters and forwarded to New York, and when there the letters were considered as 'paid' by the postal authorities in that city. This was done for a short time, solely as an experiment to test the practicability of use of postage stamps throughout the United States." Luff mentions having seen two copies used on covers bearing dates of February 1st and April 11, 1846.

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* Illustrated.

The variety used in Boston is represented by a magnificent pair used on the entire, and a still more wonderful piece—an horizontal strip of four. By the way, only three strips of four of just the ordinary New York have ever come under our notice. The rare "R. H. M." signature is also shown, of which Luff in his "Postage Stamps of the United States" says: " . . . Fearing that they might be counterfeited, it was decided to authenticate the stamp by the endorsement of the postmaster. Mr. Morris undertook to do this, but found that it required too much of his time, and delegated the work to his assistants. It is believed that he signed only two sheets, on two succeeding days." If this statement could be authenticated, it would indicate that not over fifty copies were signed with the "R. H. M." signature, as it is generally thought that there were not over twenty-five of the New York stamps in a sheet.

The Postmasters' provisionals, after a full sheet of Providence, end brilliantly with eight fine St. Louis—four copies on green and four on gray. The ten-cent on both green and gray are shown on covers, the one on gray illustrated, with very fine singles of both the five[1] and ten-cent[1] off the cover. To make up for the absence of the twenty-cent, there is shown what would be a perfectly magnificent vertical pair of the ten-cent, were it not for the upper stamp, which has lost a corner. However, a pair of this stamp, representing the twenty-cent rate, as it does, is, to say the least, exceptional.

The ten-cent 1847 unused, with original gum, is not frequently seen, so it is a pleasant surprise to find it here; together with several fine singles and pairs used, and also the rare provisional split—diagonal half used as five cents—on the entire. This particular copy is mentioned in Luff's work as an example of this variety. (In passing it may be of interest to note that many of the stamps in this collection were used as examples in writing both the Catalog for Advanced Collectors by Collin & Calman, and also Luff's work on United States. Where such is the case, note of it will be made.)

A fine array of the 1851 imperforate set follows, including a very fine vertical pair of the one cent, showing types I and II,

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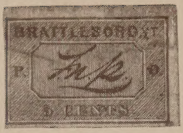
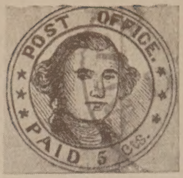
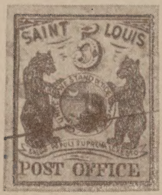
[1] Illustrated.


BRATTLEBORO VT.
P.
O.
5 CENTS

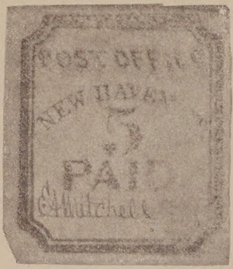
BRATTLEBORO VT.
NUMBER FIVE ON THE PLATE


POST OFFICE.
PAID 5 cts.

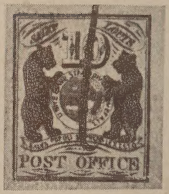
MILLBURY, MASS.


SAINT LOUIS
5
POST OFFICE

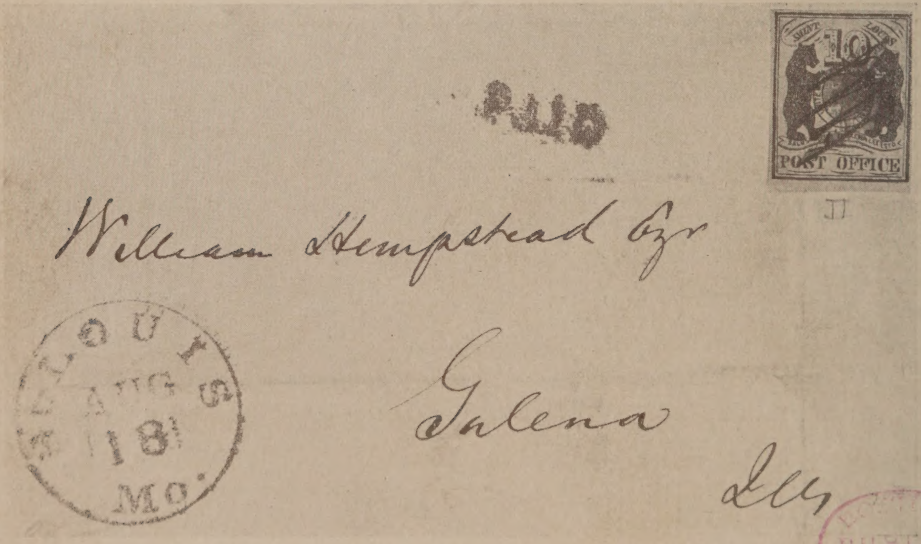
5c. ST. LOUIS, ON GREENISH
FIRST PLATE TYPE C


POST OFFICE
NEW HAVEN
5
PAID
E.A. Mitchell

NEW HAVEN, CONN.
WITH SIGNATURE IN RED


SAINT LOUIS
10
POST OFFICE

10c. ST. LOUIS, ON GRAYISH
SECOND PLATE, TYPE C


PAID
SAINT LOUIS
10
POST OFFICE
William Hempstead Esqr
Galena
Ills
ST. LOUIS
AUG
18
MO.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

10c. ST. LOUIS ON GRAYISH. SECOND PLATE, TYPE A and used on a small piece of the cover; numbers of singles and pairs of the one-cent and three-cent in a great variety of shades, unused and many used copies of the other denominations. Superb unused copies of the five, twenty-four and thirty-cent complete the set. Before leaving the imperforate set, mention should be made of the split of the twelve-cents used as six-cents. Ordinarily this is not a very rare thing, but here it is used in combination with the one-cent and three-cent of the same issue to make the ten-cent rate to New Brunswick. Because of its use in this unusual way, it is both interesting and valuable. Still another copy of this split is present, but this is used in the ordinary way, to pay the six-cent rate.

In the perforated set all the various types of the one-cent are shown unused, as well as several fine shades of the three-cent outer line in like condition. The very scarce five-cent brick red is shown in mint condition, set off by a fine lot of unused copies of the same denomination, varying from the rare red brown of type I, down to the commoner types and shades. The higher values are represented several times over in both unused and used condition. Especially worthy of note is a fine used copy of the ninety-cent. In the used condition it is very difficult to obtain.

The premieres gravures set of 1861 is very poorly represented, as he has only an unused ten-cent, the twenty-four cent used, and the ninety-cent—the well-known imperforate variety. This latter is probably nothing better than a proof, although, to be sure, it is a rare one. Some of the early U. S. come on a paper very much like the regular stamp paper (a trifle thinner, and more snappy) and yet these are really only proofs, and this, the ninety-cent, is undoubtedly one of them. The strength of the September issue makes up in a large degree for the weakness in the August set, by showing a superb block of four of the three-cent pink, unused and mint; three very beautiful shades of the five-cent mustard, unused, two of which have full o. g.; and a fine lot of the higher denominations unused, including four fine shades of the ninety-cent. Rather an interesting oddity is a two-cent revenue stamp,—"bank check," used on a small piece of the cover with the regular one-cent postage stamp, to make the three-cent rate. The beautiful three-cent scarlet, accredited to 1862, has been mentioned in an earlier chapter—as costing just $1.00. This is supported by a line of fine, unused copies of the five-cent, ranging from the red brown through the brown to the black brown, while the fifteen-cent and twenty-four cent are well represented. The twenty-four cent includes an unused copy of the very scarce "steel blue." The very interesting diagonal split of the two-cent black is shown, used in conjunction with a whole copy of the same stamp, making up the regular letter postage of that period—three cents. The grills of 1867 are exceptional, both in numbers and quality, including a pair of the three-cent grilled all over, imperforate, and a block of four of the 13x16 in like condition. We do not regard these two varieties as ever having been issued, however desirable they may be (and should be) to the specialist.

One can hardly appreciate the great beauty of the 1869 set until some of the exquisite copies in this collection are seen. Here the set is repeated several times in fine unused condition. Of the ninety-cent there are no fewer than eight unused copies, including a block of four in a shade that is particularly rich and dark. Those great rarities—the fifteen-cent, the twenty-four cent and thirty-cent with inverted medallions, are also present in fine used condition, the fifteen and thirty-cent being exceptionally fine.

In mailing blanks for the returns of property subject to taxation, one of the assessors in the sixth division of Virginia could obtain no two-cent stamps with which to pay "printed matter" postage, hence we have the provisional—two-thirds of the three-cent stamp, used as two-cents. One of these rare provisionals is shown on the full document.

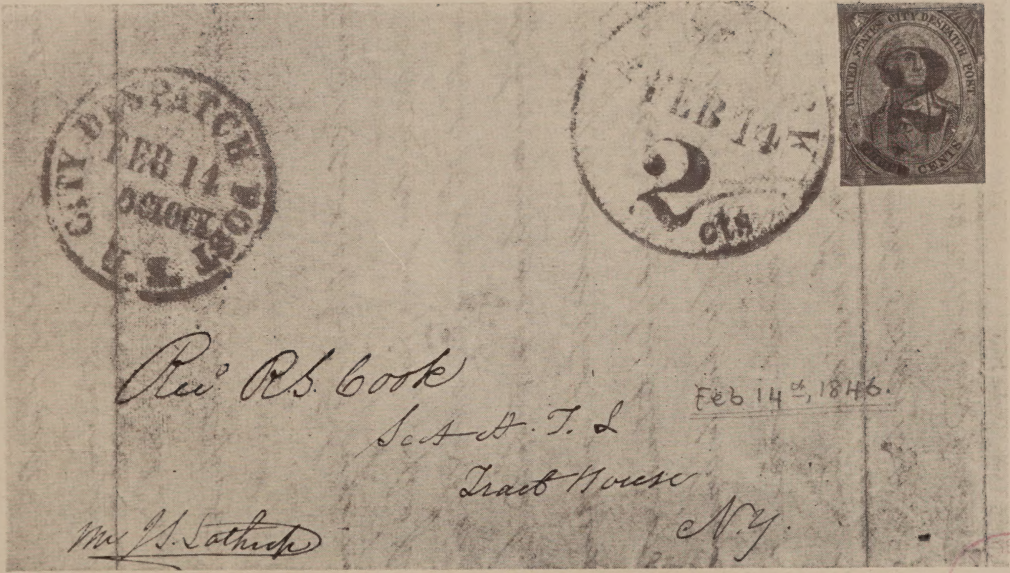
The set of originals without grill is complete in fine, o. g. condition, with the exception of the one-cent, the existence of which is doubted by many collectors. This set, by the way, should only be taken when unused, and with the original gum, as it is impossible to tell them with certainty when used, owing to the fact that the grill, from a faintly impressed copy, may be entirely removed by pressure, after being well soaked. This set should not be confounded with the re-issue set, which is also without grill. The latter is on white paper and the colors are very bright and glossy in appearance. The gum is also white and crackly. This re-issue set is shown in beautiful mint condition, as is also the re-issue set of the 1861 issue, and the reprint set of the 1856 issue.

The finest thing in the National grilled set is a very pretty, unused copy of the twelve-cent. The grill is very much more distinct than usual, and the stamp, although lacking gum, is well centered, and must be considered very fine. This stamp unused is very rare. One of the handsomest twenty-four-cents ever seen makes a fit companion, even though lightly cancelled. The other values are well represented, for the most part both new and used. In the ungrilled set is noted a fine lot of shades, unused, each denomination being represented by from three to five fine ones.

In the Continental set is shown a very fine lot of shades of the various denominations. It is very noticeable throughout the collection that although great attention has been paid to obtaining the rare things, equal effort has been made in securing shade varieties—so here are shown five or six copies of stamps that the medium collector frequently lacks, even in a single copy.

The experimental sets are also present, the chemical paper, and the set on pinkish paper with wide laid lines. A fine example with sheet margin, of the Fletcher cog-wheel die is also included.

Of the Continental re-issues he has the one-cent, a very pretty pair of the two-cent with plate No. 161, two copies of the seven-cent, the ten, twelve, fifteen, twenty-four and ninety-cent. The two, seven, twelve and twenty-four-cent of this set are more readily distinguished, as their differences in shade from the original stamps are very much more pronounced than the other values, which are differentiated only with great difficulty.


UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST
THREE CENTS
FEB 14
2 cts
CITY DESPATCH POST N.Y.
FEB 14
8 O'CLOCK
Revd R. S. Cook
Sect. A. T. S.
Tract House
N.Y.
Feb 14th, 1846.
Mr J. S. Lathrop

2c. ON 3c. GREEN GLAZED PAPER. NEW YORK CARRIER
THE ONLY COPY KNOWN TO PHILATELY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

In the American issue, the shades of the earlier printings are duplicated. Of the ten-cent, generally hard to find, he shows no less than ten copies, ranging from a light yellow brown to a beautiful real black brown.

The American re-issue of 1880 is of great rarity and it is doubtful if more than half a dozen full sets are known. In any event, Dr. Bowers has but one stamp of this rare set—the twelve-cent.

The later issues of U. S. are represented by many blocks and shades, and include beside the regular varieties, such scarce things as the thirty-cent orange brown of 1888 in a pair imperforate; the four-cent Columbian error of color; and all the varieties of perforation of the 1894 unwatermarked set. These latter are really scarce and should not be confounded with the imperforate varieties of the watermarked issue which were secured through favor.

In the interesting issues of the Department stamps, which are complete, are many beautiful rows of shades. The high values of the State set are very fine, and include a few extra copies. The navy error is represented by two examples, one of which, with original gum, is particularly fine. The very rare "specimen" sets are also shown. These issues surcharged "Specimen" are more appreciated from year to year, and many collectors will be forced to do without them, owing to their increasing scarcity. The Treasury set is the rarest among the departments surcharged "specimen," and of this there cannot be over seventy-five complete sets in existence, as that number represents all that were sold, the remainder being destroyed. These sets in the order of their rarity are as follows: Treasury, Interior, Post-office and War. An exception must be noted however in the high values of the State department, which as a set is very difficult to obtain.

The carrier stamps are among the most fascinating of American issues. They take us back in fancy to the old, old days of the "penny-post." Then it was the duty of the carrier, or penny-post, as he was popularly called, to deliver the mail, the present letter-carrier service being an outgrowth of the earlier method. In that day some of the carriers were paid a stipulated salary, but by far the greater number depended entirely for their remuneration on the number of letters collected or delivered. Prior to 1845 the rate for carrier service was three cents per letter, but in that year this was reduced by Congress to two cents. Still later, in 1851, this rate was made one cent.

Many collectors confound the carrier issues with the "locals," a mistake which, in view of the facts, should not be made. The carriers themselves were directly employed by the Post-office Department, and must be considered as indissolubly a part of that system as are the letter carriers of today. And, with refrence to the stamps in question, it is well to note that in two instances, that is, in the case of the Franklin and Eagle carriers, they were issued under authority conferred by Act of Congress. Again, the issue of the United States City Despatch Post of New York was authorized by the Postmaster-general, while in the case of many other stamps, postmasters and even carriers themselves, were responsible for issue.

Although these stamps were prepared for a specific use—that of paying the carrier's fee—it is of interest to note that in the case of the "Franklin" carrier, a strip of three was used to pay regular postage. Of the issues known as semi-official, (that is, all of the carriers except the Franklin and the Eagle,) there are several pieces of the same order. Among them may be cited a strip of three of the one-cent yellow, New York carrier, and also two different covers, bearing several of the three-cent United States City Despatch Post type. In all these instances they were used to pay regular postage.

Strange as it may seem, with all their individuality and historic charm—the carriers remain, even today, a terra incognita to philatelists. The fact that so little is known of them makes them fascinating in the extreme to the student of philately.

However, even with this lack of knowledge, these are still found to be great favorites with Dr. Bowers, and if the reader will turn to the frontispiece, an extraordinary coincidence will be apparent, for Lord Crawford, as well as Dr. Bowers, has seen the rare merit and individuality of these most interesting issues and nothing could point to this more clearly than the finely thorough manner in which he has treated these early American stamps.

In the Bowers collection may be seen a used copy of the "Franklin," and a number of the "Eagle," but it is in the so-called "semi-official" carriers that he shows to best advantage. Here, in the Baltimores, are several of the "horseman" type, both black and red and including all the errors—"short rays" and "sent." In the "Post-office Despatch" type are shown the rare red on white and the scarce green, both on covers, as well as a good lot of the commoner stamps of the same type. The green is illustrated, and attention is called to the word "carrier" in the lower left corner of the envelope. This was written when mailed, and in the same ink as the address. It is, in reality, an interesting indication of old-time postal usage, a reminder of methods long since past. The "eye" type are present in force.

Among the Boston carriers is seen the very rare two-cent black.[1] This particular copy is mentioned in Luff's work as showing portions of several stamps. It is extremely rare, and very few copies of it are known. The "Penny Post" and "Penny Post Paid" types are well represented both on and off the cover. The Honours are shown in half a dozen different types, mostly on the cover, but they are not really a strong lot.

The New York carriers invite our interested attention. Here may be seen stamps showing the gradual reduction of Carriers' fees and the means taken to supply stamps of the proper denomination to meet these reductions. The list includes the first surcharge known in philately. It is also of large interest to note that the first stamp used in America, and the second in the world, is one of these issues,—though it was issued first as a local stamp, rather than as a carrier. These facts should make the New York carriers eligible for the Order of the Garter—among stamps.

In Scott's catalog, under U. S. No. 844 may be seen the statement: "This is a carrier's stamp only when cancelled with the regular government cancellations." This bald statement does not mean very much to the uninformed. In explanation, let it be said, that in 1842 H. T. Windsor, Esq., of London, England, started the City Despatch Post with Alexander M. Grieg as agent. This local post issued the stamp as above, No. 844. It was a three-cent black on white and lettered "City Despatch Post." This post was so successful that seven months later the Government took it over, enlarging their own city delivery service under the name of the "U. S. City Despatch Post," with Alexander M. Grieg as the first carrier. In the interim between the taking over of the City Despatch Post and the preparation of the Government carrier stamps (which were lettered "United States City Despatch Post") they continued to employ provisionally this local stamp. This stamp with the regular Government cancellation becomes the carrier No. 844 as referred to, and is extremely rare, as only a few are known to exist. Used as a local it is not difficult to obtain. The rare provisional carrier is represented here by two fine copies, one being on the cover, and the other off.

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[1] Illustrated.

Then come the regular stamps of the United States City Despatch Post. Here is shown the rare black on rosy buff;[1] the blue wove unused; several copies of the blue glazed (one on a strongly ribbed paper) and several of the green glazed, one of which is in the pale apple-green shade.

In regard to the next piece that claims attention, it is hardly possible to better the descriptive notes in the frontispiece where Lord Crawford states so clearly the various changes in the postal rates and in the issues of the New York carrier stamps. He says,—"On the 3d of March, 1845, Congress by act changed the rate for drop letters from three cents to two cents, and carriers were allowed to charge the same amount. The stamps of the U. S. City Despatch Post were for a time used with a large figure "2" overprinted, and the word "three" in the lower label barred out. A copy on the original envelope is in the Hunter collection. Later a new stamp was made, roughly printed on white wove paper from metal casts, probably from a wood-cut block. Nothing is known as to its author, or size of the sheet." The cover bearing the surcharged stamp mentioned, has since passed into the Bowers collection. Without doubt, this is the rarest of all the carrier stamps, and its interest is greatly enhanced because it shows the first use of the surcharge in stamps. This is illustrated, as well as a very fine unused o. g. copy of the two-cent wood block stamp mentioned in the note above. This last, the two-cent red, is also a rare stamp, and for many years its use was attributed to Boston, but since the discovery of two or three copies on the cover, it has been possible to classify it correctly.

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[1] Illustrated.

The carriers in use in Philadelphia form a very interesting section, and illustrate fully how little is known concerning carriers in general. After an examination of all that bears on the carrier question, one feels that ignorance rather than wisdom holds sway in philatelic ranks concerning this particular branch of collecting. Here indeed is a most inviting field for original research, which offers great inducements to the thorough student.

In the Bowers collection there is also a fine assortment of the Philadelphia carriers, mostly on the cover. These include all of the one-cent on rose paper with the various letters; the one-cent on rose without letters, and the blue glazed. Several of the rare hand-stamped "prepaid" envelopes are also present. What is possibly the most interesting piece is the adhesive made from this hand-stamp, by its application to the sheet margin of the one-cent[1] 1851. The copy illustrated shows the ornaments on the side of the stamp. This explains why the stamp is cut at an angle, the sheet margin not being wide enough to allow a perfectly horizontal impression of the die to be made without gross mutilation to the stamp design. In passing, it may be said that the meaning of the various letters on these carriers such as "L. P.", "S", and "L. S.", has never been satisfactorily explained. Mr. Luff suggests that inasmuch as these various stamps were in concurrent use, they may refer to the various carriers who used them, serving as a means to keep their credits

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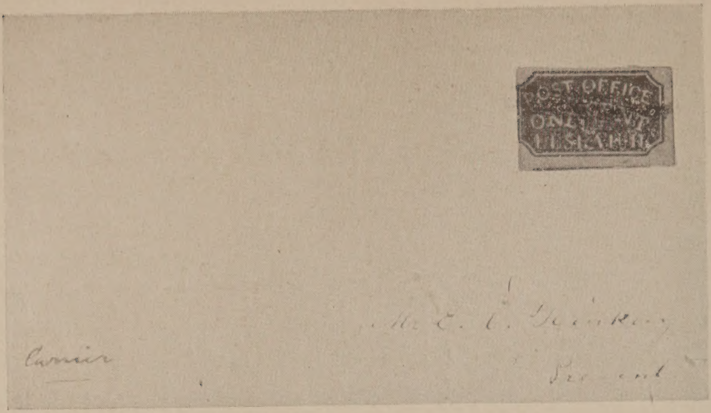
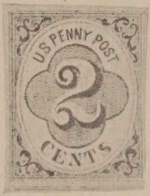
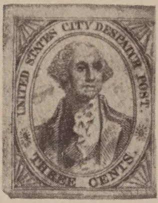
[1] Illustrated.


POST OFFICE
ONE CENT
U.S. MAIL
Carrier
Mr E. C.
Present

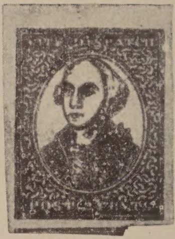
1c. Green, Baltimore Carrier


US PENNY POST
2
CENTS

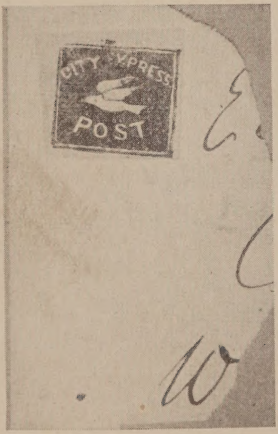
2c. Black, Boston Carrier

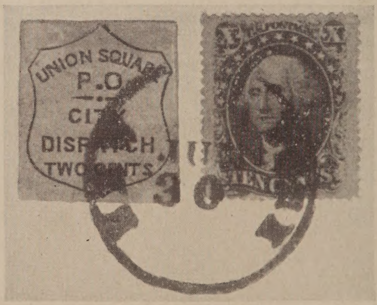

UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST
THREE CENTS

3c. on Rosy Buff,
New York Carrier



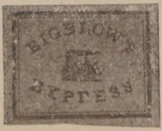
2c. Red, New York Carrier


CITY EXPRESS
POST

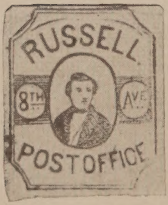

UNION SQUARE
P.O.
CITY
DISPATCH
TWO CENTS
30

Union Square P. O., 2c. on Rose
(Local)

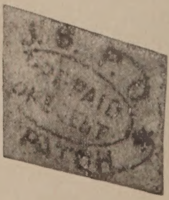
City Express Post
(Local)


BIGELOW'S
EXPRESS

Bigelow's Express
(Local)


RUSSELL
8TH
AVE
POST OFFICE

Russell's 8th Ave., P. O.
Vermilion (Local)


PRE-PAID
ONE CENT

1c. Black, Adhesive
Philadelphia Carrier

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separate, so that they might receive compensation in accordance with the work done. The same result was doubtless obtained by similar means in several of the other cities where carrier stamps were used, as will be seen by the coincident use of different designs or of the same design, but in different colors.

But it is necessary to turn away from this fascinating study to consider the Newspaper stamp. Of these a very complete collection is shown. Some attention has been paid to shades, beginning with the large five-cent with blue border down through the Continental—including the special prints—and the American printings. The Bureau prints are also in good shape, and include the very scarce $3.00. The rare special print of the American Bank Note Co.—the two-cent, intense black—is present also. This is a stamp to be found only with great difficulty, and in all probability it is worth far more than the recent prices obtained for it would indicate. Both the watermarked and unwatermarked sets are also noted, the latter in plate number strips of three.

The postage due stamps are quite complete, and contain an interesting oddity in the shape of a vertical half of a two-cent stamp surcharged vertically "Due one cent" and used to collect one cent due on a letter. It is evident from the postmark, that this was used in Jefferson, Iowa.

Although no specialty is made of the envelope issues, it may be said with safety that Dr. Bowers' showing would rank high among those of other collectors. Although nominally a collection of cut squares, it contains some very fine entires. It may be well to mention just a few of the more notable ones, after stating that practically all the lesser priced envelopes, both of the regular issues and the departments, are shown, as well.

In the 1857 to 1861 issue, both the six and ten-cent on white, unused and with fine margins, may be noted. In the 1864 issue may be seen the small "2" on orange paper—a very bright, clean example. Among the Plimptons are the three-cent, die C on blue and on fawn, both used, the former entire, the latter cut square. Here is found also what is doubtless an unique envelope, the two-cent vermilion, die B 3 on amber—a fine-cut square copy. No other is known, and as yet it is not mentioned in any of the catalogs. The two-cent vermilion die D on white is present in beautiful unused condition, entire, as also the two-cent carmine lake of July, 1884. The rare die A of 1887 on the various papers is complete in this collection. The one on amber manila is entire and unused. The manila and blue are both used, the former entire, the latter cut square. Just one of the wrappers is really worthy of note—the two-cent vermilion, die A unused. This is cut with fine large margins, and is an attractive copy.

The department envelopes are fine to the point of brilliancy. Here are shown the three-cent and six-cent Post-office entire on white. These are very clean, bright copies—and are exceedingly rare today. Another rare example is the ten-cent dark red War of 1873, unused and entire. This is the first copy, in unused condition, that has come to our notice. Also the rare 1875 issue on both amber and cream, cut with large margins, may be seen.

It is hardly necessary to describe the telegraph stamps. Let it suffice, that even they, have not been neglected in this wonderful collection.

In the local stamps may be found a field for research as replete in absorbing interest as that of the carriers. They performed the same service as the carrier stamps, but were issued by private persons, (mostly by concerns already doing an express business) instead of by the government, or its servants, and although in some cases the government carrier service grew out of some "local" company, as in the case of the United States City Despatch Post of New York City, still the line of demarcation between carrier and local is really well defined.

It is well to quote from an early writer, (1863) whose material was gained largely from personal and intimate knowledge of the times, and also from the various Acts of Congress relative to the Post-Office department, its conduct and the rates to be charged for its service. He says in part:—"The proper explanation of the many local postage stamps issued in the United States is to be found only in a thorough review of the postal laws passed by Congress and in a careful study of the changes wrought by these successive legislative acts in the mode of distribution of letters and in the rates of postage. . . .

The agitation in favor and final adoption in England of the penny postage system, excited a corresponding interest and movement in the United States in favor of a reduction of what were felt to be, in comparison with British rates, extortionate postal charges. As happened with all political reforms, it took time to develop public sentiment, and to draw the attention of Congress to this important subject. The government rates were deemed so onerous that private parties undertook to carry letters on their own account between points where they felt sure that money could be earned at lower rates.

The successful efforts of these private carriers soon commenced to tell upon the postal revenues, and, as the natural consequence, the post-office department was compelled to propose the remedy called for so clamorously by public opinion. By the Act of March 3, 1845, Congress at one sweep abolished the previous high rates, as well as the annoying scale of varying distances; and while substituting the weight-standard, reduced at the same time the rate for a single letter to five cents for any distance under three thousand miles, and ten cents for all distances over three thousand miles. By the provisions of the same act, drop-letters (by which was meant letters for delivery in the same town where posted, as distinguished from letters intended for transportation to other towns) were made chargeable with a tax of two cents, prepayment being optional.

It must be borne in mind that, in addition to all the rates just mentioned, the post-office carriers were entitled to charge upon all letters, without exception, delivered at one's residence, a fee of two cents for the delivery. This last item of revenue formed the entire compensation of the carriers, who, deeming themselves underpaid, were unwilling to make more than two deliveries a day—one in the morning, and another in the afternoon. It will be seen, that under this arrangement, the entire tax levied upon a drop-letter, carried a few squares' distance, and delivered at one's residence, was four cents, or only one cent less than the sum charged for transporting a similar letter nearly three thousand miles!

It is to this important fact, and to the want of frequent deliveries in large cities and towns, that we may legitimately trace the creation of the numerous private post companies. In all the chief towns, these companies established a system of letter boxes, from which letters were collected and delivered five or six times a day, and at one-half, or even one-fourth the rate charged by the government. The usual price was one cent or two cents. At first in the principal cities, when there was no competition, the price was two cents. Later, as rivalry started up in the private postal service, some of the companies lowered the price to one cent. In some of the smaller cities, where the distance traveled over by the carriers was comparatively short, the price was never higher than one cent. Hence almost every city had its one, or, as in Philadelphia or New York, its half-dozen local posts; and hence this is why, upon the stamps employed by these companies, the usual designations of value will be found to be one or two cents. . . .

An important innovation upon the system of postal regulations was introduced into the Act, passed March 3, 1851. While still leaving the prepayment of letters optional, this new law reduced the rate for letters under three thousand miles to three cents, if prepaid; while, if not prepaid, the old rate of five cents was collected. . . .

The continued success of private posts at this period caused the insertion of a provision in the same Act of 1851, authorizing the Postmaster-General to establish "post routes within the cities or towns"; to reduce the total charge, inclusive of delivery-fee, upon drop letters to two cents; and to provide for collecting and conveying to the general post-office, letters intended for other cities,—the latter duty having been previously monopolized by the private carriers. . . .

But, notwithstanding the provisions of the Act of 1851 referred to, the post-office officials were slow to exercise the authority granted. Although the price on drop-letters was reduced to only two cents, still the rapid and frequent deliveries, which the public had become accustomed to from the private companies, were not yet supplied by the post-office department; the government carriers refusing to make more than the traditional two daily mails, unless they were assured a remunerative salary, which should not be dependent upon the number of letters, more or less, which they delivered. . . .

By the Act of June 15, 1860, a still further reduction was made in the fee for the delivery of letters; the rate collected by the carriers on all letters, whether received from abroad or mailed in the city itself, being one cent. A special appropriation of money was also made, to make up the loss to the carriers consequent upon this reduction, by substituting a fixed salary for these officials. And yet nothing was said in the act about the compulsory prepayment of this delivery-fee of one cent. In reality that question remained an open one until the present year. By the Act of March 3, 1863, the question was definitely settled. It provides for frequent deliveries (which can now be carried out, since the carriers have regular fixed salaries); it compels prepayment on all drop-letters, upon which the rate is made two cents, and abolishes all delivery tax upon letters coming from other towns. The law took effect on the first of July, and this accounts for the introduction of the new two cents adhesive label, and the two cents envelope, both with the effigy of President Jackson.

The question of the right of private carriers to transport letters within the municipal limits of the cities was settled authoritatively in 1861, by the United States court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, in a suit brought by the Government against Messrs. Kochersperger & Co., successors to D. O. Blood & Co. of Philadelphia. The court decided that, by the language of the Post-Office Act of March 3, 1851, the 'streets' of cities and towns were made 'post-routes', and that the Government alone had power to transport letters over them. This decision, happily commended to popular approval by the tardy awakening of the post-office officials to increased energy and enterprise, was the death blow to the local companies. Though the Government did not commence suit against all the companies, the decision in the one case had served as sufficient warning, and at the present time, (1863), private posts and local stamps in the United States may be considered among the things of the past."

It will be seen from the above that the local posts had no association with the government,—in fact, were its competitors, and that finally, as an essential to government success in the postal service, they were denied even the right to exist. With this in view it is safe to say that the local posts, legally, never delivered any United States mail, though they frequently carried mail to the post-office for despatch elsewhere.

With the study of the local posts the same difficulty is found as in the case of the carriers—lack of historical matter. Here again may be found a great opportunity for original work, and it is quite probable that such research would show that there are included among the local stamps many that were actually carriers. The fact that, prior to the Act of 1851, the local posts practically monopolized the carrying of mail to the post-office, places them in a position of close unity to the post-office department, and should give them a standing in philately far above that accorded them today.

There are many of the rarer locals in the Bowers collection, and a great variety of those less rare. Among those less frequently found are the Adams City Express Post two-cents, on buff, used on the letter; a very pretty red Barr on the entire; two-cent vermilion, City Despatch Post on the letter; and the rare Dupuy and Schenck on white glazed paper, used on the full cover. There is also a local on the cover which hitherto has been unknown—the Bigelow's[1] Express. This was used in Leominster, Mass. Comparison shows it to be of the same design as the "Fiske and Rice"—merely with a change of name. No other copy of this stamp is known. One of the really scarce locals is the "City Express Post"[1] which illustrates a carrier pigeon bearing a letter. This is shown on a small piece of the original. A pair of the red Pomeroys on the letter is another very desirable piece, while the Boyds and Bloods seem almost without number, many of them on the cover also. The rare Davis Penny Post of Baltimore is present, and also several Glen

[1] Illustrated.

Havens, mostly on the cover. Hill's Post, thought by some to be a carrier stamp, is found but seldom, yet here is a very good copy on a small piece of the cover.

If all the historical details could be secured concerning the various local posts, such knowledge would add immeasurably to their interest, but unfortunately very little is known of them, which condition allows a broad field for historical research. However, such work, if done at all, must be done soon. Time passes rapidly. Those who have the needed information, must of necessity have left youth far behind them, and the philatelic historian must secure his material while old-time memories may still find expression through a living voice. Before leaving the locals it is almost necessary to speak of the Hall and Mills, of which there is a fine copy on the cover in the Bowers collection; also Roche's City Despatch; Russell's 8th Ave., Post-office, two copies—the vermilion[1] and the blue on rose; and lastly the two-cent Union Square Post-office[1] used on a piece of the cover, a stamp which is excessively rare in this condition.

The revenue issues are strongly represented. In the imperforates of the first issue nearly everything of moderate value is shown in pairs or blocks. There is a vertical pair of the three-cent playing card and a beautiful horizontal pair of the $1.60 of which but one other pair is known. The $1.30, $1.90, $2. Probate, $2.50 and $3.50 are represented by fine single copies as are the $25. and the $200. Very pretty vertical pairs of the $15. and the $20. Probate complete the fine things in the imperforates.

The part perforates are nearly all in pairs and strips, and the few singles have such fine margins as to preclude the possibility of trimming. The perforated revenues are complete, and include a very finely centered copy of the six-cent proprietary and two fine $20. probates, as well as most of the scarce ultramarines, and numerous other shades. Of the latter it is only necessary to mention the $25. in the very rare bright carmine red shade, instead of the dull red as usually found.

[1] Illustrated.

WILLIAM C. BOWERS, A. B., M. D.

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The second issue is complete with many shades and includes fine copies of the rare $200. and $500. revenues. Among the rare inverts of this series represented are the one, two, five, ten, twenty, fifty-cent and one and five dollar. These are all difficult to obtain, and even this indefatigable collector still needs the 25-cent and 70-cent to complete the set.

In the third issue, complete several times over in the regular set,—occurs one of the rarities of the entire collection—the $2.50 with inverted center, unused, with full o. g. In this condition it is one of the most beautiful stamps ever seen, drawing forth spontaneous admiration by the soft and delicate blending of the claret coloring of the framework, with the gray black of the vignette. As far as known, this stamp, unused, is unique, though in used condition four copies are known. While this easily leads the set, and in fact the entire revenue collection, mention must be made of the fifteen-cent, with inverted medallion, as this is also a rarity, and appears in fine condition.

Of the green and black proprietary issue there is an unused o. g. set of the 50-cent, $1.00 and $5.00. This is a magnificent set, and one is the better able to appreciate the artistic value of these most attractive stamps when in such immaculate condition. Of the inverted medallion set the one-cent only is shown. In the later proprietary issue the rare five-cent black rouletted, is seen, together with numerous shades of all the other values.

The private die stamps, commonly known as "Match and Medicine" form also a fine collection. During the last two or three years an increasing interest has been apparent in these hard-to-get issues. The peculiar ways in which these stamps were used—sometimes placed over the cork of a bottle, and at other times as a seal on the wrapper covering a bottle—make them all the more difficult to secure in fine condition, as many of them were either destroyed or damaged in opening the parcel. As a result the supply is extremely limited, and of those to be had, only too few are in fine condition. Almost all of the varieties are here, but possibly a short list of the better ones will suffice; with the added statement, that practically all the lower and medium priced ones are present, many of them in several shades.

Among the Match stamps are the Rock Island; one-cent blue Alexander; twelve-cent brown, H. Bendel; two copies of the three-cent brown, Bousfield & Poole; one-cent black, Brown & Durling; Byam, Carlton & Co., large adhesive; a fine lot of the various dates on the wrappers; the very rare A. Goldback on pink; one-cent black, T. Gorman & Bro.; the rare Macklin and the V. R. Powell, wrapper—cut. Of this there are shown two copies—one on thick, white paper, and thought by many to have been used as an "adhesive."

After a fine copy of the canned fruit stamp of T. Kensett & Co., come the Medicine stamps. The better ones include the four-cent vermilion, D. S. Barnes; F. Brown on pink; two-cent Drake; one-cent black, Fleming; four-cent black Hiscox, on watermarked paper; the violet Husband; two-cent blue Marsden; two-cent black, Mercado & Scully; Morehead's Neurodyne; four-cent Bennett, Pieters & Co. on silk; six-cent B. P. & Co. on old; one-cent lake, Seabury & Johnson. That very rare stamp so infrequently seen, the six-cent orange, Jas. Swaim, together with a fine lot of the eight-cent of both Jas. and Wm. Swaim. Among the perfumery stamps is the very rare two-cent blue Woodworth on pink.

Dr. Bowers was interested also in the Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals, of which he had many rare and interesting specimens. Among the scarcer pieces are a beautiful single of the five-cent Athens purple; the five-cent Baton Rouge of the more ordinary type; four of the five different Charleston envelopes; a very fine copy of the ordinary type of Columbia, S. C., but on green paper, a hitherto unknown variety and very rare; followed by the rarer type in a fine copy of the variety "seal on reverse." Among others are the five-cent Fredericksburg used on a piece of the cover; an unused ten-cent Fredericksburg; the Lenoir[1] with a postmark cancellation, and a very fine Lynchburg on the full cover, neatly postmarked. Of the rare Lynchburg envelopes all three are shown in fine, entire copies—the white, amber and brown.

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[1] Illustrated.

Then follows an interesting and varied assortment of the Macons, not including however, the great rarity—the two-cent. One of the five-cent unused is illustrated. The two-cent Marion, unused; the two-cent black Mobile; and a Pleasant Shade,[1] of type III are shown in fine condition. The latter is very difficult to obtain. Many misleading counterfeits are offered, which in some measure at least are responsible for mistaken ideas concerning its rarity. Among the Nashvilles is a superb copy of the ten-cent green,[1] used on the whole cover. This is cancelled in blue so lightly that in the illustration the post-mark is hardly visible. A faint outline of the circle may be seen covering the "Esq." of the address, and just the upper left corner of the stamp. Used on the cover, this is exceedingly rare.

One of the finest pieces in the Confederates is a finely cut copy of the rare Pittsylvania on the entire. Almost all of the few copies known have the corners clipped off and are almost "cut to shape." Aside from the generous margins possessed by this specimen—as shown in the illustration—it is printed in a peculiarly bright shade of red, and on what is almost a cardboard paper. This specimen has been examined by Mr. Deats, the well-known authority on Confederate issues, who states that it is the first of this particular variety that has come to his notice. It is exceedingly rare. Several of the Raleigh envelopes come next, followed by a particularly fine example of the Salem, N. C., on amber. The pair of Tellico Plains, which is illustrated, is two-thirds of a "sheet." These stamps were printed in strips of three, two five-cent, and one ten-cent, thus making this pair of great interest.

After the Postmasters' Provisionals there is a very comprehensive collection of the general issues, starting with the regular U. S. Envelopes of the period, which remained in Southern Post-offices at the outbreak of the war, and which were overprinted for official use by the Confederate Government. Among the better things of the regular adhesives is a fine copy of the split twenty-cent green, used as ten-cent on the entire letter.

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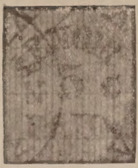
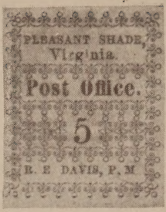
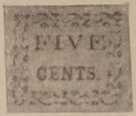
[1] Illustrated.



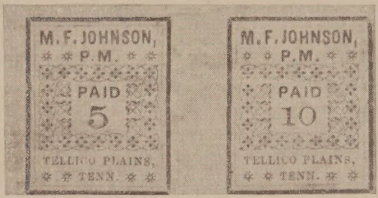
Lenoir, N. C.


PLEASANT SHADE,
Virginia.
Post Office.
5
R. E. DAVIS, P. M.

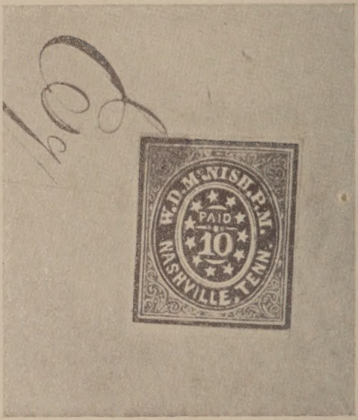
Pleasant Shade, Va.



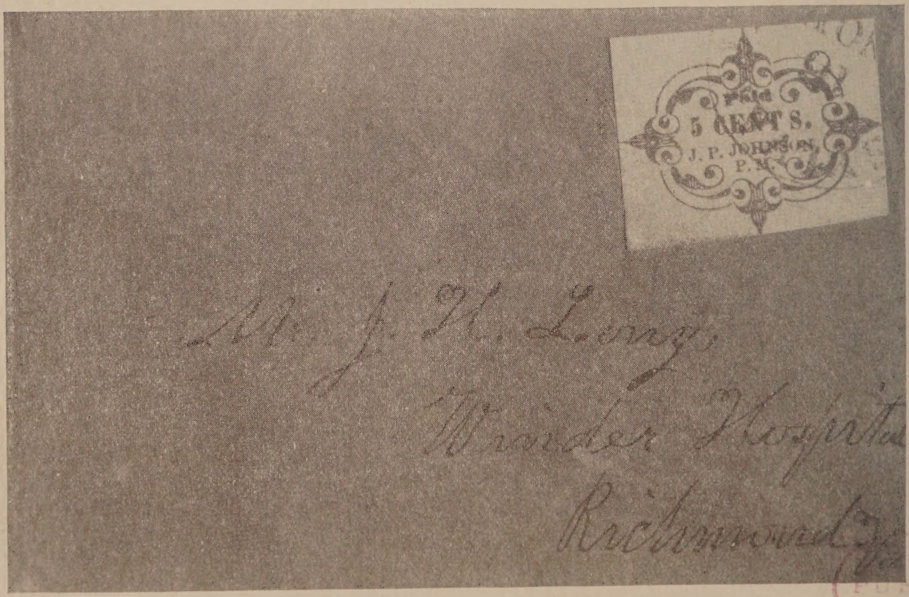
Macon, Ga.
5c. on yellow


M. F. JOHNSON,
P. M.
PAID
5
TELLICO PLAINS,
TENN.
M. F. JOHNSON,
P. M.
PAID
10
TELLICO PLAINS,
TENN.

Tellico Plains, Tenn.
5c. and 10c.


W. D. McNISH, P. M.
PAID
10
NASHVILLE, TENN.

Nashville, Tenn.
10c. green on the cover


Paid
5 CENTS.
J. P. JOHNSON,
P. M.
Mr. J. H. Long
Winder Hospital
Richmond

Pittsylvania C. H., Va. 5c. red on very thick paper

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DESCRIPTION OF THE BOWERS COLLECTION.

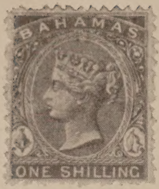
PART II.

The size of the large modern collections may be somewhat better appreciated when one considers that the "Americans" of the Bowers collection form in themselves alone a magnificent collection. They alone would strain the time and ability of any ordinary man to the limit, yet, strange as it may seem, the same thoroughness and attention to detail characterizes the foreign countries as well. Various countries highly specialized are seen frequently, and this specialism reaches its zenith in his marvelous plates of New South Wales—but of these mention will be made later.

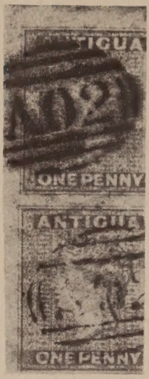
Very few Afghanistan are found on this side of the water, but Dr. Bowers is fortunate in having a representative collection. This is composed of many fine unused copies and includes the six-shahi and one-rupee purple of 1871—both very fine copies; one-shahi purple of 1872; one-abassi black of 1874; and many of the scarce 1875-76 issue. The later issues are represented in some instances by several of each denomination, although no attempt has been made to plate them.

Angola finely illustrates the manner in which the Portuguese Colonies are collected. These are arranged by perforation and also by the thickness of the paper, showing the different printings. By this arrangement, an otherwise small country makes a very creditable showing.

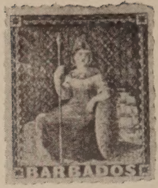
An used vertical pair of the one penny "star" imperforate of Antigua is illustrated. Although not a thing of beauty, it is a great rarity, and clears up the doubt as to whether or no this was issued in imperforate condition. There is the six-pence unwatermarked, imperforate, in a vertical pair; a single of the compound perforation; and also the six-pence "star" imperforate, used. In the regular watermarked "star" set he has divided them into thin and thick paper sets and each set is complete, in shades, both unused and used. The after issues are complete in shades and frequently both new and used are found. At the close of Antigua come the one-penny, three-pence and


BAHAMAS
ONE SHILLING

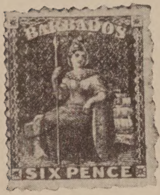
BAHAMAS, 1SH. GREEN, "CC"
PERFORATED 12½


ANTIGUA
ONE PENNY
ANTIGUA
ONE PENNY

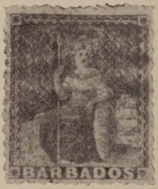
ANTIGUA, PAIR. 1D,
"STAR" IMPERFORATE



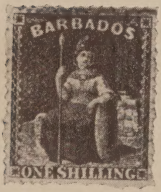
BARBADOS, 4D. DULL RED,
LARGE "STAR"
ROUGH PERFORATION


BARBADOS
SIX PENCE

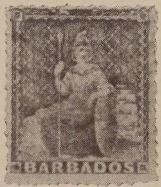
BARBADOS 6D. VERMILION
LARGE "STAR"
ROUGH PERFORATION



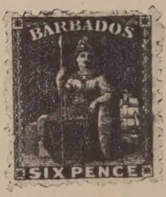
BARBADOS, 4D. ROSE RED
SMALL "STAR"
ROUGH PERFORATION


BARBADOS
ONE SHILLING

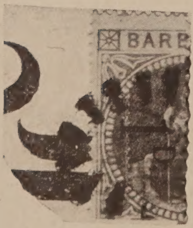
BABARDOS, 1SH, BLACK.
SMALL "STAR"
ROUGH PERFORATION



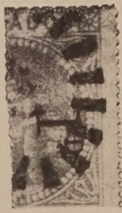
BARBADOS, 4D. ROSE RED,
LARGE "STAR"
CLEAN CUT PERFORATION


BARBADOS
SIX PENCE

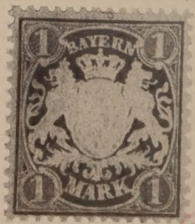
BARBADOS, 6D. ORANGE, "CC"
PERFORATED 12½



BARBADOS, 1D. ON FIVE SHILLINGS
DULL ROSE
LARGE SURCHARGE



BARBADOS, 1D. ON FIVE SHILLINGS
DULL ROSE
SMALLER SURCHARGE


BAYERN
1
1
1
1
MARK

BAVARIA, 1M. VIOLET ON
HORIZONTAL WAVY LINED PAPER

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one-shilling, long fiscals, used postally. These are very scarce indeed.

The first issue of Argentine is shown unused and used in several copies of each value, together with several bi-sected ten and fifteen-cent. The next set is separated into the two sets with and without accent. These are shown complete with several of each value, both new and used.

Among other notable things in this country are the ten and fifteen-cent imperforate, of the watermarked issue, and aside from the fact that the country is nearly complete in the regular issues, there are also many varieties of surcharge and perforation. It may be well to mention a few things which these include:—a vertical pair of eight-cent 1877-80 imperforate between; a block of four "1-2-cent Provisorio" on five-cent 1884 with double surcharge; and a ninety-cent "Oficial" with double black surcharge.

Almost all the early Austrians are used, so that in reality the best things are the Newspaper stamps. Here are seen the yellow Mercury used on the cover and the rose unused. The later issues of Austria; the offices in the Turkish Empire and Lombardy Venice are largely unused. The fiscals, used postally, have not been neglected, and a good lot is shown.

Azores is very well done—starting with the imperforate set complete. In the later issues, the different perforations are well filled out and of the rare perforated 14 set, there is a very fine unused o. g. copy of the 100r. Among the Newspaper stamps are several inverted and double surcharges.

There is a very good selection of Baden, though the two or three very rare ones, unused, are lacking. The remainder are shown both new and used. Among the better unused are the one-kreuzer on buff, 1851; three-kreuzer on blue, 1853; three-kreuzer, perforated 13 1-2, and the six-kreuzer blue of the 1864 set.

In Bahamas a very lovely pair of the one-penny imperforate, used on a small piece of the cover is shown, followed by the rough perforation set unused and used. Among the good things are the four-pence perforated 13 unused; the shilling, "C. C."

12 1-2; and a fine lot of the "C. C." unused, o. g. perforated both 12 1-2 and 14, in many shades. Among the perforated 12 1-2 set are shown the four-pence, six-pence and one-shilling imperforate and unused, and although in singles, they have entirely satisfactory margins.

Barbados is a fine old country, and here is seen the result of some hard study. The difficulty in securing fine specimens is appreciated by all, but in spite of this well-known fact, this assortment is far above the average. First come almost two solid pages of the first type, used and unused, both in singles and pairs and shades withal, including the very scarce bi-sected one-penny used on a small piece as one-half penny. The scarce one-half penny green on white is shown unused. That very difficult stamp—the six-pence red of 1859—is here unused with o. g., and also an unused pair of the shilling that goes with it.

The pin perforations are all present, but in used condition only. In the rough perforations, unwatermarked, is that rarity, the one-shilling blue error, which though never placed in use, is much sought for. The rest of this set is duplicated several times over in fine unused condition, and includes some startling shades, especially of the six-pence. There is also an unused pair of the four-pence imperforate. Of the large "star" rough perforation, he shows only used copies of the one-penny, but has all the other values in superb unused condition. Of these the four-pence and six-pence are illustrated. The small "star" rough perforation set is complete, unused, and the shilling is shown in duplicate, both copies having full o. g. Of these the four-pence and one-shilling are illustrated. In the clean-cut perforation, the six-pence,—the rarest—is unused, and has the sheet margin attached on the left. The compound perforations are both here unused and used, as well as all of the large "star" clean-cut perforation. Of these latter the four-pence is illustrated. There are also two pretty unused pairs of the shilling, one being perforated and the other imperforated, and as well, two very different shades of the six-pence in imperforate pairs unused. Among other good things are the six-pence, "C. C." 12 1-2 unused; four-pence lake, "C. C." 14; the rare six-pence yellow, perforated 14 and two of the one-penny on five shillings, provisional. These last are illustrated.

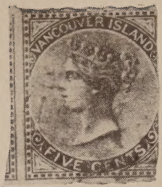
In Bavaria, other than the rare six-kreuzer broken circle, practically everything is here, unused and, in many instances, used as well. The one-mark,[1] watermarked horizontal wavy lines, is a brilliant copy, and exceptionally fine for this stamp, as it has full o. g.

In Bechuanaland the only things worthy of note are the double surcharge on the one-half-penny, one in red and one in black—also the half-penny surcharged vertically and the £5 lilac unused. In the Protectorate is a whole line of the first surcharge on the one-half-penny vermilion, showing the various types and errors of surcharge; the rare set of high values from the one-shilling through the ten-shillings; also a copy of the one-shilling with the "o" of Protectorate missing; and in the next set, the one-penny lilac, with the short figure "1". There is a most interesting block of eight of the half-penny black with the dividing margin in the middle. Of this, the right hand block of four is doubly surcharged, and the left is normal.

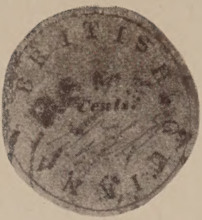
The very interesting early issues of Bolivia are here in many fine shades, both unused and used. Both of the scarce 500c. black and the rest of these issues in shades are present, as well as some interesting part perforate and imperforate varieties. These, together with two pages of fiscals, postally used, complete this country.

Brazil is very complete, although no particular attempt has been made to specialize in it. The 180, 300 and 600r. of the slanting figures are shown used. All of the perforated figure set are also present, mostly uncancelled. This set comes frequently with fraudulent perforation, and it is a pleasure to see them here genuine in every respect. The blued papers of the 1866 set are very hard to find and here the entire set is shown, either new or used. Other good pieces following are the diagonal half of the 200 r. of 1882 used as 100 r., and two used imperforate pairs of the 100 r. lilac of 1882 in different shades. Most of the issues are reasonably complete both in new and used specimens, and some scarce postal fiscals on the full letter and

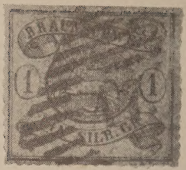
[1] Illustrated.


VANCOUVER ISLAND
FIVE CENTS

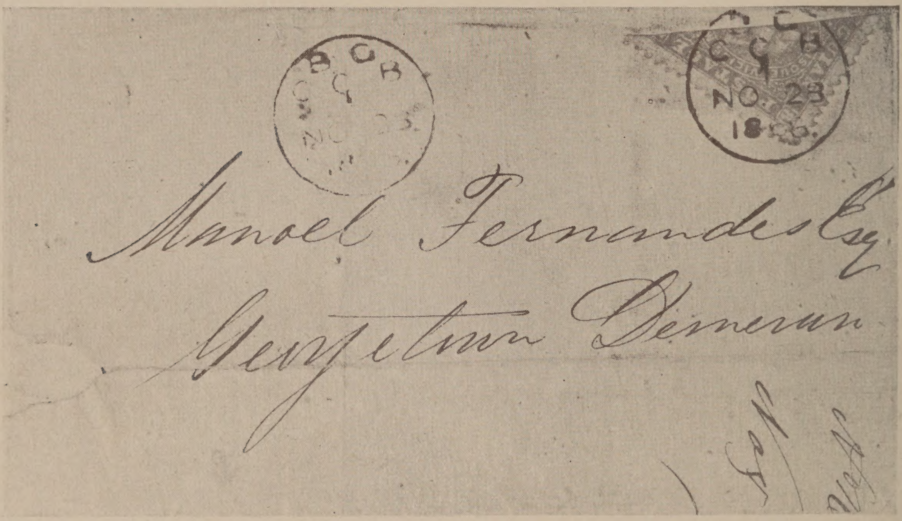
British Columbia
5c. rose, imperforate


BRITISH GUIANA
Cents

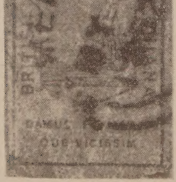
British Guiana
12c. blue, circular



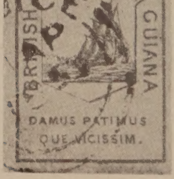
Brunswick
1 sgr. on yellow, perce en arc.


C C H
NO 23
18
Manoel Fernandes Esq
Georgetown Demerara

British Guiana half of 8c. rose, 1861, used as 4 cents


1 CENT
BRITISH GUIANA
DAMUS PETIMUS
QUE VICISSIM

British Guiana
1c. on magenta, 1852


4 CENTS.
BRITISH
GUIANA
DAMUS PETIMUS
QUE VICISSIM.

British Guiana
4c. on blue, 1852

also a block of six of the ten-cent yellow newspaper stamp, part rouletted, should not be overlooked.

Bremen has been gone into quite thoroughly, and of the three-grote imperforate all the types are shown on horizontally laid and also on vertically laid paper. The types of the five-grote are also shown. The best stamp in this country is an used copy of the seven-grote yellow, perforated. There are also a few lines of the set, *perce en scie.*

British Columbia is complete (except for the 2 1-2 d. dull rose imperforate). Here attention will be called simply to the five-cent imperforate, which is illustrated. This was torn carelessly from the sheet and shows quite a piece of the adjoining stamp, thus guaranteeing its imperforate condition.

British East Africa is very nearly complete, the entire first set being used on a single cover. A fair proportion of the rare manuscript surcharges are also shown.

The early British Guiana are not strong, in fact of the type-set issues of 1862 one would expect to see re-constructed plates in order to be in keeping with the rest of the collection. Of the circulars there is just the twelve-cents[1] which is a fine copy, even though cut round. The one-cent[1] magenta and four-cent[1] blue of 1852 are both shown in particularly fine copies. The 1853-60 set appears in beautiful condition. Of the vermilion, one is in the brightest and freshest color possible, and withal has a most considerate cancellation. There is also a copy of the four-cent blue which is its equal in color and cancellation. The type-set issue is represented by just a single copy of each stamp. The regular perforated issues from 1860 through 1875 are shown in all the perforations and thick and thin papers, and are a very complete lot, especially strong in shades, both new, and used. It seems rather an opportune time to illustrate a diagonally bi-sected eight-cent of the 1861 issue, used for four-cents, as there has been very much written of late concerning the British Guiana splits. Without doubt this is an instance of a perfectly legitimate variety of the greatest interest to any student and yet it would probably not be correct to say that this was used as the result of proper authority. In the "C. C." set may

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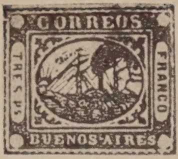
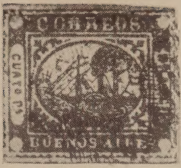
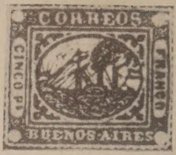
[1] Illustrated.



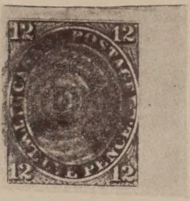
Buenos Aires, 3 pesos green



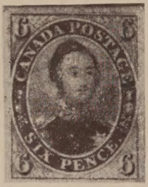
Buenos Aires, 4 pesos vermilion



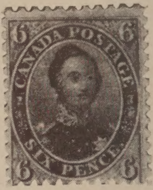
Buenos Aires, 5 pesos orange



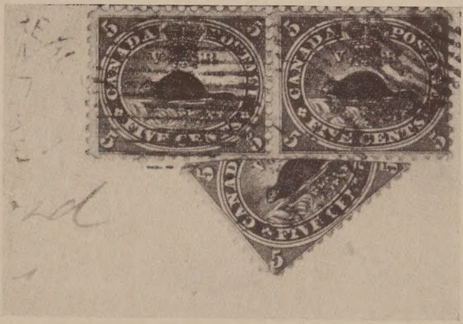
12d. Canada



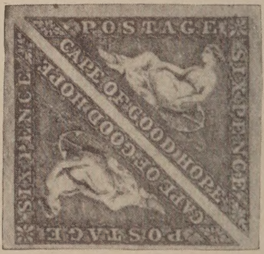
Canada, 6d. on wove, imperforate



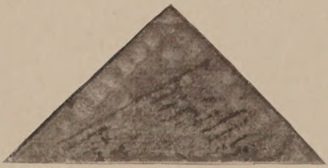
Canada, 6d., perforated



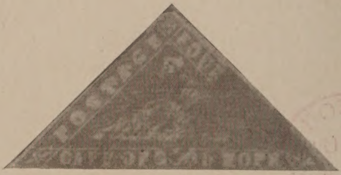
Canada, half of 5c. vermilion used as 2½c.
in conjunction with 2-5c. stamps to make 12½c. rate



Cape of Good Hope, 6d. gray
Perkins Bacon & Co.



Cape of Good Hope, woodblock error 1d. blue



Cape of Good Hope, woodblock error 4d. red be noted the 96-cent bistre unused and the four-cent, perforated 12 1-2 used. All the surcharges are shown, also a full sheet each of the one and two-cent type-set stamps of 1882. The scarce $1.00 of 1889 and a nearly complete set of the officials complete this country.

The best stamp shown in British Honduras is the three-cent on three-pence "C. C." 12 1-2—a very fine copy of this rare stamp. The two-cent on six-pence, perforated 14, is shown in the very scarce variety, figure "2" with curved tail. The rare inverted "6 cents" in red and in black are both used on the same cover—a rare piece.

Most of his Brunswick are in used condition, but are picked specimens. The best stamp in the country is a fine used copy of the 1 sgr. on yellow,[1] *perce en arc.* A very curious piece is a diagonal half of the two-sgr. of 1853 used as one-sgr. on the full letter.

Buenos Aires is evidently a favorite country, for here is shown a fine lot, there being no less than four of the three-pesos in varying shades, one of them having "AIRES" spelt "AIPES". One of these is illustrated. There is but one of the four-pesos,[1] and that unfortunately has a slight tear. However, the color and impression are perfectly wonderful. Of the five-pesos there are two fine copies, one of which is illustrated. They are both used, although the cancellation on the one chosen for illustration is so delicate as to be almost invisible in the plate. He shows a fine copy of that rarity, the blue error, with "Cuato" unchanged. The other denominations are each shown in a full line of unused and used, with many shades.

There is a very choice little lot of Bulgaria. The best things being the five s. rose, error of color, and the five on thirty, black surcharge, both unused. Practically everything else is here.

Dr. Bowers says that he hunted several years to find a twelve-pence Canada with margins to suit, and finally he secured a copy in an auction for which he paid $410. Almost anyone would be satisfied with this copy, as reference to the illustration will indicate, as it has the sheet margin on the right and fine margins on all sides, even showing part of the next stamp at

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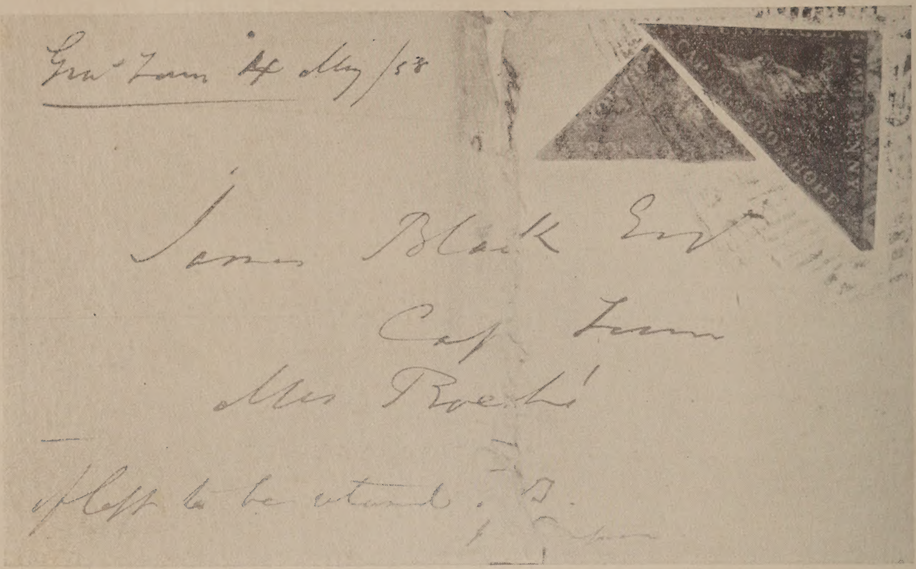
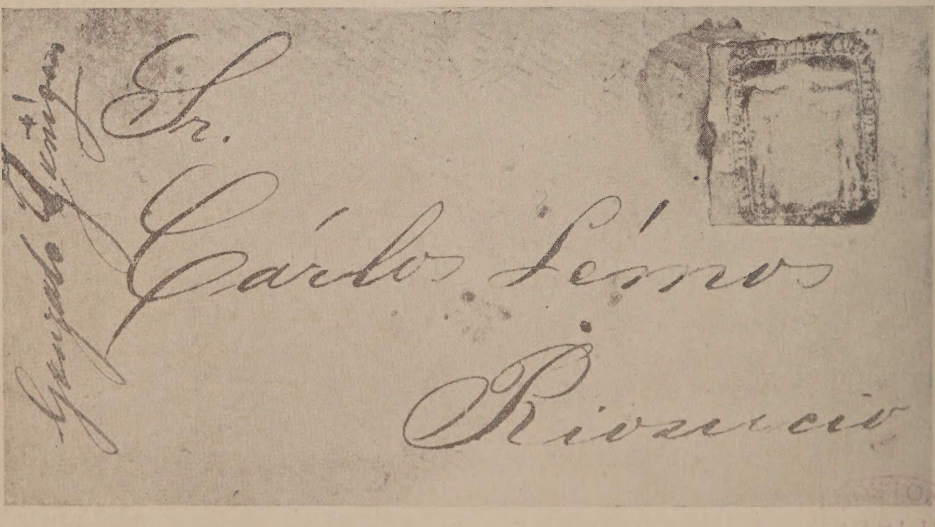
[1] Illustrated.


James Black Esq
Cape Town
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Half of 6d. lilac, Perkins Bacon & Co., used with an 1d. to make a 4d. rate



Cauca, (Colombian Republic) 5c. black

STON
UBLIC
IBRAR

the top. Among other nice things in this country are very fine copies of the six-pence imperforate on the various papers, one unused,[1] and two others used on the "very thick, hard paper," which is scarce. The six-pence,[1] perforated is unused, o. g., and is in a very pretty shade, midway between the very light and very dark shades, usually seen. There is a good showing of 7 1-2d. and 10d., one each unused and several used. The rare split—half of five-cents[1] used as two and one-half-cents in conjunction with two five-cent stamps to make the 12 1-2 cent rate is shown on a small piece of the cover. The 1868 issue is shown in all of the shades, and includes also all of the "watermarked letters" varieties, except the half-cent, the existence of which is doubted by many well-informed collectors.

Among the Capes he shows a large number of the triangulars, both of the Perkins, Bacon and De la Rue prints. Of the Perkins, Bacon the best things are the four-pence rouletted, half a six-pence[1] used with a one-penny to make the four-pence rate; all of the set unused, a particularly brilliant pair of the six-pence[1] gray, some in pairs and several of each denomination in the various shades used. In the wood-blocks both of the errors[1] are shown, and although not absolutely perfect, are surely as fine as the few very infrequently seen. Then there are several each of the one-penny and four-pence, among the latter being a very rich, dark blue. The rest of the country is complete, mostly unused and used, although the five shilling "C. A." is shown only used, as is also the rare one-half-penny on three-pence claret "C. C."

Ceylon is another very beautiful country, and here may be noted the first, imperforate set complete, part used, and part unused. The one shilling and nine-pence is here in both shades, one being the rare yellow green and unused. The other rare values are shown only in used condition. The half-penny[1] lilac on bluish, is shown in a superb mint copy, and also in a very pretty pair used. Of the clean-cut perforations may be noted the two-pence and the six-pence unused and the rest of the set used. The rough perforations are complete, largely both unused and used, and shown in the many shade effects to which these beautiful stamps lend themselves. All the unwatermarked set is here, but mostly used. Besides a finely shaded lot of the "C. C." set he shows an exceptionally fine 2 rup. 50, unused and mint. The surcharges are very complete, and show most of the inverts and doubles.

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[1] Illustrated.

In this garden spot for specialists, Colombian Republic, are shown a very complete lot. The early issues are shown in duplicate, both new and used. Of the 1862 issue the one peso on bluish is shown in two slight shades, and the rest of the set is also in duplicate, even the twenty-cent red. The two and one-half cent violet, of 1870, is shown in pairs, on all the three papers. The rare surcharged provisional of 1883, half of ten-pesos used as five-pesos is shown joined to the ten-pesos stamp, the whole being used as fifteen pesos.

The first issue of Antioquia is shown complete, and the various errors, of *cliches* inserted in the wrong plate, are also present, either in pairs or blocks. In Bolivar the small but expensive ten-c. green is shown, followed, in Cauca, by the very rare 5-c. black[1] on the cover, and 5-c. violet with figures in corner. The rare Tolima are here in force, two plates being complete, as well as many others in singles.

Many American collectors take Cuba with their United States possessions, and this explains why evidences of great interest are shown here. The early issues are taken both new and used and also in pairs, and even blocks to a limited extent. All of the Y 1-4 surcharges are shown, and also a fine lot of the "Habilitados", both new and used. Of the 1883 surcharges, not only all the normal types are shown, but many of the errors of surcharge as well. The collection is rich in imperforate pairs and also in bi-sected stamps, used on letters for half their expressed value. There is also a very interesting block of four counterfeits of the three-centavos last Spanish issue—used postally to defraud the government. The Puerto Principe provisionals are a very fair lot, but do not include any of the very rare stamps.

Cyprus is shown practically complete unused, including even the early plate numbers. Besides the regular issues, there are quite a number of scarce postal fiscals.

[1] Illustrated.

Denmark is shown complete, and includes a particularly fine unused copy of the first two-rs. blue, and the 16s. rouletted, unused. All the unofficial perforations of the early issues are shown used, and also the imperforates of the 1864 set.

Dominica is shown complete, including that great rarity the 1d. on 6d. green—the latter being used on a piece of the cover; together with a 1d. and 4d.

In Dominican Republic there is quite a fine lot of the type-set stamps. Of the first square stamps but one of each is shown, but in the next design several copies of each value are present, both new and used. The best of them is a simply wonderful copy of the rare "lozenge"[1] watermark. This has a wide sheet margin on one side, and is well worthy of illustration. He also shows the variety "Unreal" blue, no space between "Un" and "real," in a single, and still another specimen *se tenant,* with one of the ordinary variety. He also shows this stamp cut diagonally and used as 1-2 real, and still further without inscription[1] at top and bottom. The pelure paper set is complete. Among the wove papers may be seen the 1-2 r. magenta; the 1-2 r. yellow, without inscription at top and bottom, and several bisected stamps, as well as several of the unofficial pin perforations. Of the surcharges, many of the errors are present, and of these may be mentioned particularly, the ten-cent on two-cent red with "centimos" spelt "centimso."

Dutch Indies is shown in the various perforations both new and used. The two very old and interesting postage dues stamps are also present.

Turning past Ecuador, which seems to be complete in many shades, there may be noted in Egypt, several of the tete-beches in blocks, also the twenty-cent green of 1867 printed on both sides. The rest of the country is well represented.

We will pass over Falkland Islands which is complete, including a whole line of the half-penny surcharge, showing all varieties, and find ourselves inspecting the innumerable surcharges of Fernando Po. These all seem to be here, together with many that are double and inverted. These comprise a fine lot.

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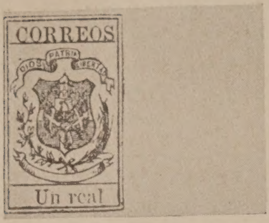
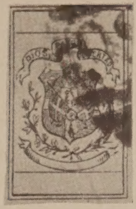
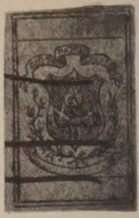
[1] Illustrated.


CORREOS
Un real

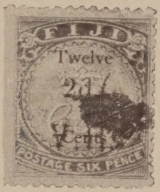
Dominican Republic
1 real on pale green paper
"Lozenge" watermark



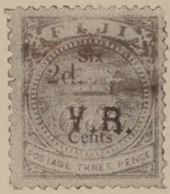
Dominican Republic
1 real on blue
without inscription in labels



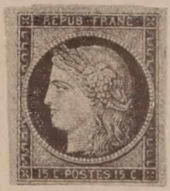
Dominican Republic
½ real on yellow
without inscription in labels


FIJI
Twelve
2d.
Cents
POSTAGE SIX PENCE

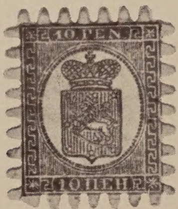
Fiji, 2d. on 12c. rose, gothic


FIJI
Six
2d.
V.R.
Cents
POSTAGE THREE PENCE

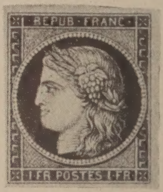
Fiji, 2d. on 6c. green, gothic
black surcharge


REPUB. FRANC.
15 C. POSTES 15 C.

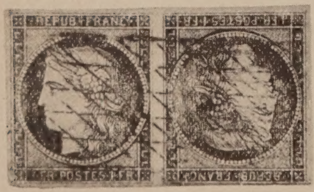
France, 15c. yellow green
1849-50



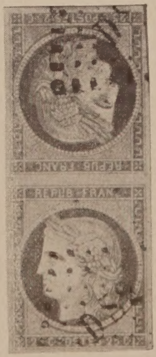
Finland, 10p. purple brown, error
on wove paper


REPUB. FRANC.
1 FR. POSTES 1 FR.

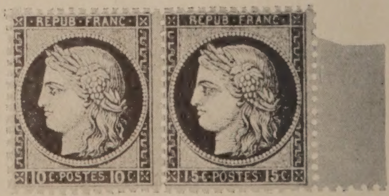
France, 1 franc, dull orange red
1849-50


REPUB. FRANC.
1 FR. POSTES 1 FR.

France, 1 franc, carmine, 1849-50
tete-beche


REPUB. FRANC.

France, 25c. blue, 1849-50, tete-beche


REPUB. FRANC.
10 C. POSTES 10 C.
REPUB. FRANC.
15 C. POSTES 15 C.

France, cliche of the 15c.
in the plate of the 10c.

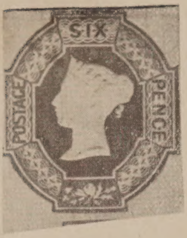
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The interest in Fiji has increased greatly the past few years, and a very fair lot is shown here, although nothing approaching a really specialized collection. The "Times Express" stamps are here complete on both papers. The surcharges of 1874 are shown merely in a single copy of each variety. Possibly the best of these are the two-pence on twelve-cents, Gothic[1]; the two-pence in black on six-cents,[1] Gothic; and the two-pence on twelve-cents, Roman. The later issues are shown in the various perforations, all unused.

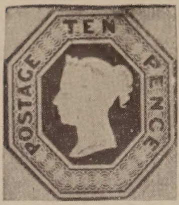
In Finland a good lot of the interesting old stamps is shown, with their curious perforations. After several rows of the first 5k. and 10k., among which may be noted the 5k. with large pearls, and the 10k. on laid paper, comes the 1867 set, where is seen the error 10p. purple brown[1] unused on wove, a very brilliant copy, and also another copy of the error, on laid paper, used. All the rest of this set is here unused and in shades, and the later issues are complete in all perforations, the tete-beches alone being needed. Among the envelopes may be noted some very pretty entires. Generally, entires seem to have fallen into disfavor with many collectors, but it is pleasing to see that this interesting branch has been kept up, in this collection, particularly in those countries whose envelopes show such individuality of design as here.

France is quite strong. In the First Republic may be seen the fifteen-cent,[1] one-franc carmine and one-franc dull orange red,[1] all unused, with original gum, as well as the lesser priced stamps, both unused and used, some of the latter in pairs. The one-franc vermilion is shown only used, but in the dull orange red unused he has a much rarer stamp than the vermilion would be if unused. In this set he shows in the tete-beches a fine vertical used pair of the 25-cent and a most beautiful horizontal used pair of the one-franc carmine. Both of these are illustrated. Of the 1852 issue are shown two unused ten-cent and a very fine unused pair of the twenty-five cent. In the first Empire are seen many shades of each value unused, and a fine lot of used strips, and also the 80c.[1] tete-beche in an horizontal strip of four. This is rare in a strip, but unfortunately is not in really fine condition.

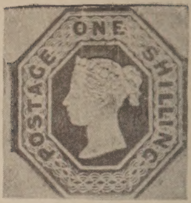
[1] Illustrated.



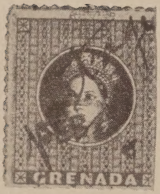
Great Britain
6d. dull lilac, 1854



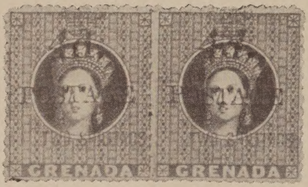
Great Britain
10d. red brown, 1848



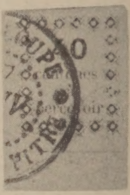
Great Britain
1sh. green, 1847



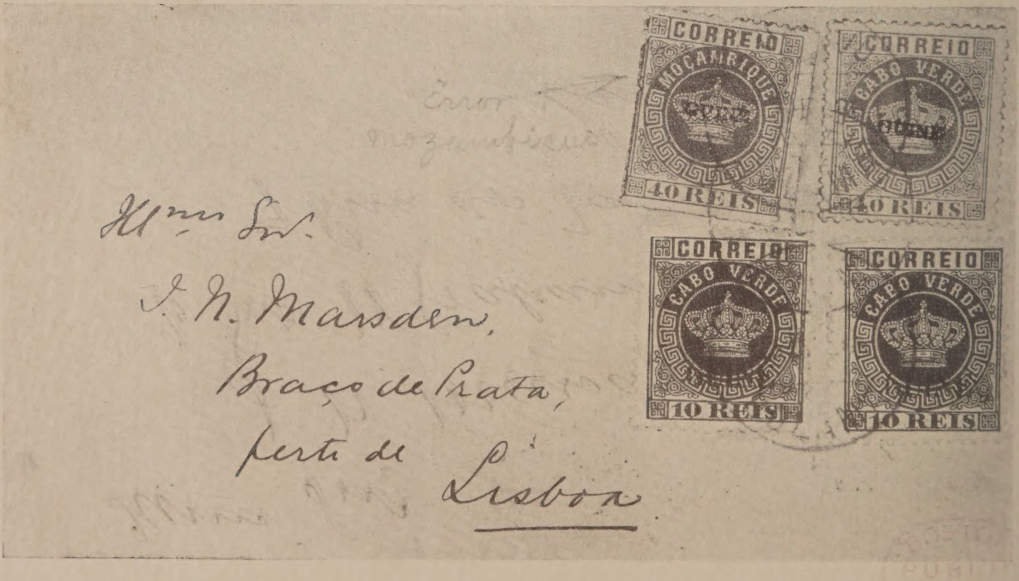
Grenada, 1d. orange and green
manuscript surcharge
"postage"



Grenada 4d. upright, on 2 shs.
1888-89



Guadeloupe, postage due
40c. on blue paper
1878-79


Erro
mozambique
Ill.mo Snr.
J. N. Marsden,
Braço de Prata,
perto de
Lisboa

Guinea, 40r. blue with surcharge on "Mozambique" instead of "Cape Verde"

The Bordeaux set lacks the twenty-cent, type I, unused, but otherwise is very rich, in mint condition, every possible shade of the other types being present. All the varieties of unofficial perforation, roulette, and pin perforation are present. In the engraved set of 1870-71 may be seen the ten-cent bistre in a mint, horizontal pair tete-beche, and in the following set he shows one of the handsomest pairs of the ten-cent and fifteen-cent[1] *se tenant* imaginable. It has the sheet margin attached, and has full o. g., while the color is very fresh and brilliant. The balance of the issues are unused and include many imperforate varieties.

French Colonies proper, are an exceedingly fine lot and, barring the tete-beches of the Ceres type, are very complete indeed, with fine unused pairs and blocks which lend themselves to many striking shade effects. The ten-cent bistre (eagle type) tete-beche is shown in several shades, and the whole set is present as well in the pin perforation. The scarce twenty-five-cent black on red—"Trades and Commerce" type—is shown in a very fine pair, and two singles unused, and also a single used.

Gambia, that attractive little country, is shown in many shades unused, and of the imperforate issues, there is a row of each.

The Northern and Southern Districts of Germany are shown both new and used, although unused they are not as yet wholly completed. In the Southern District, the very rare 3kr. on deep blue, and the 6kr. and 9kr. of the same set are shown unused. Particular attention is given here to cancellation, and quite a variety is shown as to numbers and names. In the later issues of the Empire many of the imperforate varieties are present, as well as the surcharged sets for most of the foreign possessions.

Alsace and Lorraine is complete, both new and used, and the inverted net-work set is shown unused save for the five-cent which may be seen used. The five-cent with inverted network, unused, is an exceedingly rare stamp, and several have been seen that purported to be unused which in reality have been pen cancelled and cleaned.

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[1] Illustrated.

After passing over Gibraltar which is complete, unused, as might be expected, there may be seen a very pretty showing of Gold Coast. Here the best things are the one-penny blue "C. A." unused, o. g. and a very bright, unrubbed copy of the twenty-shilling green and carmine. Everything else is shown unused, with a fair variety of shades and also several interesting splits.

In the Mother country of these beautiful colonial issues are seen some pretty pieces. The one-penny "V. R." is a very nice copy, and has the signature of E. L. Pemberton on the back. His pretty unused set of octagonals is illustrated. These are very fine, the one-shilling[1] having full o. g. It is also particularly sharp, and the same may be said of the six-pence.[1] There is a fine lot of early pennies, both imperforate and perforate, in many fine shades. Both of the rare four-pence, "small" and "medium garter," are shown, unused with gum, but they are both a trifle cracked, which is to be deeply regretted, though a great many of these stamps seem to come in poor condition, probably owing to the highly surfaced paper on which they were printed. The "emblems" and "spray" sets follow in profusion, unused. There is a fine eight-pence brown lilac of 1876,—rather a hard stamp to find. Of the high values watermarked "Maltese cross" and "anchor," he has contented himself with a good supply of used specimens, although in the case of the five-shilling "anchor" he shows an unused, o. g. copy on white paper. The five-pound, also, is unused, and he has it on the blued paper as well, but in used condition. The later issues are shown unused and well shaded and finish with a fine line of postal fiscals. In the Levant may be seen the 12 piastres on blued paper, in used condition.

Greece is practically complete and very well arranged, but there are no very rare stamps. Those shown are for the most part unused, with auxiliary used copies. There are all the Paris issue, with some extra copies, unused and used, and several different values printed on both sides. Although these are called printers' waste, an authority makes the statement that they came out during the period in which they were in use, and are not "recent discoveries." Several of the early and rare roulettes are shown. Of the second type there is a good showing in the different perforations of both the Belgian and Athens prints, unused. A very interesting piece in the postage dues is an imperforate strip of three of the 90l. of the 1878 issue.

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[1] Illustrated.

The early stamps of Grenada are attractive indeed, and are shown in a fine lot of shades, mostly unused. Of the first six-pence, watermarked and unwatermarked, he shows nine fine specimens, unused, including one pair of the "no watermark" imperforate. The one-penny is likewise represented with a fine lot of shades. There are several rows of the 1875-81 set, including the "OSTAGE" and double surcharge errors on the 1-2d. and the "Pencf" and "Penoe" on the 2 1-2d., all unused and full o. g. Both the "broad-star" watermarks —the 2 1-2d. and 4d.—are here, scarce as they are.

In the 1882 provisionals may be seen the large "Postage" (1-2d.) in an unsevered pair, used, as also a single in like condition. The small "Postage" (1-2d.) is shown in a particularly choice unused o. g. pair, and a single used. Then occurs one of the "Postage" manuscript surcharges[1]. This is very rare indeed, and though, according to some authorities, never authorized, it is nevertheless an entirely collectible variety and one exceedingly difficult to obtain. In one of the current catalogs (from which these manuscript surcharges are omitted "because they were never authorized") under Austrian-Italy the following note may be seen. "These were never authorized, but were commonly used for postage, and are known with cancellations of over fifty different districts. The above quoted prices are for stamps postally used on letters." Where the great body of collectors depend so largely on the various catalogs as a check list of what they should have, in order to attain, among other things, completeness, it would seem rather inconsistent to list an Austrian postal-fiscal and not a Grenadan postal-fiscal, even when the post-office authorities have written "Postage" upon the latter, understanding, as all collectors must, that in neither case was the "proper authority" duly

[1] Illustrated.

given. All logic seems to support this manuscript surcharge. It may be asked, by way of supposition, what more sensible thing to do than to write the surcharge while waiting for a die from which to print it—as was afterwards done? Collectors should not allow their individuality to be lost entirely by following any catalog too closely, but rather should they allow the catalog to act as a suggestion, which they may follow or not as fancy dictates. It is felt by many collectors that some of the old issues—even of this nature—evolved as they were by public necessity, and not through the disinterested and kindly efforts of philatelists on the spot, are worthy of a higher place in the respect of the simon-pure collector, though they have not been issued under "proper authority," and may not be considered worthy a place within the charmed circle of "sound investments."

No attempt should be made to cut, dry and fossilize stamp collecting, and to make of it a hobby where only the very proper and fully certified specimen may have the entree. But if this shall occur, and there are some indications of a tendency in that direction, many an old pioneer in philately—brim full of interest and individuality for any collector—will be found, soon or late, in the ranks of the missing. In this connection it should be remembered that the most interesting pieces in this noblest hobby came into being through stress of circumstance, or by some error which would be discountenanced entirely if discovered in time by proper authority.

The 1883 issue is shown both in unused singles and also in unused tete-beche pairs. Each alternate row of this issue was printed tete-beche. All of the 1888 surcharges are here, including the rare upright 4d. on two shillings.[1] This is shown in a beautiful unused pair se tenant with the slanting type.

The French Colonies all the way through are very complete, but Guadeloupe is worthy of especial note. In the 1891 set, half a page of the scarce varieties of surcharge, such as doubles, inverts and with Guadeloupe spelt incorrectly, invite the attention of the writer. In the postage dues may be seen a very fine postmarked copy of the rare 40c. on blue,[1] as well as many of the errors in lettering and double impressions.

[1] Illustrated.

In Guinea is shown the rare first set complete, including the great rarity, the 40r. surcharged on the Mozambique[1] stamp. This is used on the full letter, and is an exceedingly rare thing.

Turning by Hamburg, which is complete, both new and used, with many shades, there comes to view a very good lot of Hanover. It is to be regretted that the copy shown of No. 1, supposedly unused, is really a cleaned specimen. It is not the first time that it has been seen in this shape, and where this stamp comes pen cancelled so frequently, collectors should use great care in buying unused copies. The after issues are in very fine condition, mostly both new and used. Of the 1859 set particularly, there are many striking shades, which appear also in the same set—perce en arc.

Hawaii,—here is shown a truly fine collection of this deeply interesting old country. In the Missionary stamps are shown the five-cent and thirteen-cent "Hawaiian Postage," both unused, and although they have been slightly repaired, as is usual with this issue, they are the freshest copies that one could ever hope to see. The true color value of the old metallic blue, in which these stamps were printed, is still to be appreciated, and although they are illustrated, they really need to be seen to realize how near perfection these old pioneers sometimes come. The soldierly countenance of Kamehameha III stands out from a whole page of the five-cent and thirteen-cent on the various papers. Of the rare thick paper five-cent, there are four fine copies unused and one used, also quite a number of the thirteen-cent new and used. The rare manuscript[1] surcharge is shown in a brilliant single copy, which although uncancelled has doubtless been through the mail. This stamp in years past has been among the debatable issues, but it is now in full standing—as it should be. While in San Francisco this past summer, the writer learned from a very well known resident of the Islands, that H. M. Whitney, Esq. (who was the early postmaster-general) had told him in conversation over fifteen years ago, that he himself made this manuscript surcharge, for a very short time only, when the supply of five-cent stamps was low or exhausted and that it had been neces-

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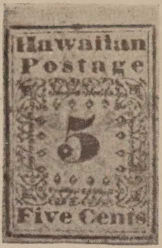
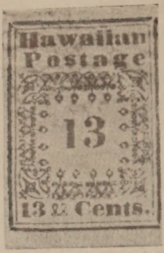
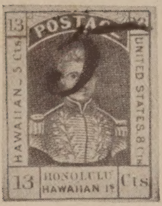
[1] Illustrated.


Hawaiian Postage
5
Five Cents

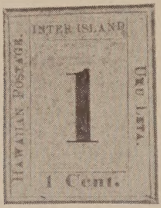
Hawaii, 5c. blue "Missionary" 1851


Hawaiian Postage
13
13 Cents.

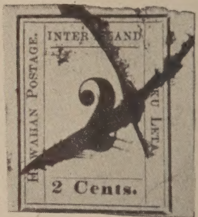
Hawaii, 13c. blue "Missionary" 1851


13
POSTAGE
HAWAIIAN 5 Cts.
UNITED STATES 8 Cts.
HONOLULU HAWAIIAN IS.
Cts.

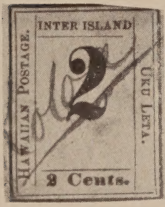
Hawaii, 5c. on 13c. dark red manuscript surcharge


INTER ISLAND
HAWAIIAN POSTAGE.
1
UKU LETA.
1 Cent.

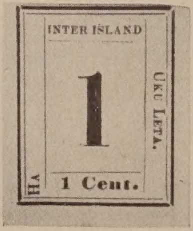
Hawaii, 1c. pale blue on bluish white paper


INTER ISLAND
HAWAIIAN POSTAGE.
2
UKU LETA.
2 Cents.

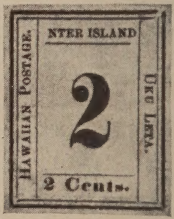
Hawaii, 2c. black on greenish paper


INTER ISLAND
HAWAIIAN POSTAGE.
2
UKU LETA.
2 Cents.

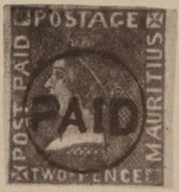
Hawaii, 2c. black on grayish paper with "2" at top of rectangle


INTER ISLAND
HA
1
UKU LETA.
1 Cent.

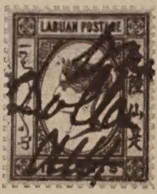
Hawaii, 1c. black on laid paper showing error "HA----"


NTER ISLAND
HAWAIIAN POSTAGE.
2
UKU LETA.
2 Cents.

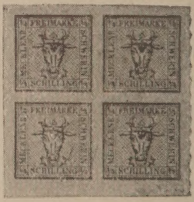
Hawaii, 2c. black on laid paper showing error "NTER"


POSTAGE
POST PAID
MAURITIUS
PAID
TWO PENCE

Mauritius, 2d. blue "Fillet Head" 1859


LABUAN POSTAGE

Labuan, one-dollar on sixteen cents, manuscript surcharge



Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 4-4s. red 1864, rouletted with dotted background

PUBLIC LIBRARY

sary to make only a few of them. In the last few years Mr. Whitney's memory (being a very elderly gentleman) became unreliable, but there is certainly dependence to be placed in this statement, made by him over fifteen years ago and "re-layed" to us to day by a very much younger man. Of the five-cent on thin white paper there are four copies shown—three unused, and one used.

The numeral issues hold much for the student of philately, and although these are not plated, as they really should be in a collection of this size, and also in order to appreciate more fully their interesting qualities, there are still some very fine things to be seen. There is a fine copy of the one-cent pale blue[1] on bluish, printed from the scarce setting—plate IA-10. The illustration does not do this justice, showing it to be soiled apparently. This appearance is caused by minute gum wrinkles, the stamp itself being very fresh and highly colored. All the other numerals are shown in at least a single specimen and of the two-cent blue on bluish two copies are shown, one having the paper maker's imprint embossed in the paper. The two-cent on greenish paper is illustrated. Of the error stamps he shows the figure "2" at the top of the rectangle,[1] and the same position on the plate (III-9) with the "2" normal, which is even rarer than the variety. The rare one-cent on laid, showing all the letters dropped from "Hawaiian Postage" except "Ha———"[1] is shown in a superb copy, as well as an almost equally fine two-cent "NTER"[1] error, also on laid. The later engraved issues are exceptionally fine and include fine singles and pairs—even some in blocks—in unused condition, as well as many used copies.

The provisional government surcharges are thoroughly gone into. Nearly all are here, in blocks, including the rather scarce twelve-cent mauve with black surcharge. There are many curious errors of surcharge, among them the very scarce no-period varieties, which are shown complete, in blocks of four, except for the one-dollar, which is shown in a single, and a pair. In connection with the no-period error, it is interesting to note that it occurs only in the first printing, the error stamp being the first one in the second row. The mistake was discovered after the first printing, and immediately corrected; thus, all later printings have the period. The quantity of each value surcharged in the first printing is not known, but as all the two-cent rosy-vermilion, that were surcharged, were so treated in the first printing, and as there were only six thousand, two hundred fifty of these ever so surcharged, it is known that of this value, at least, only one hundred twenty-five of the error stamps can be in existence, as there are fifty stamps to a sheet. Experience has shown that some of the other values showing the error, are even more rare than that just mentioned.

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[1] Illustrated.

In Hayti are seen a great many fine blocks and pairs—the entire first perforated set being shown in part-perforate pairs. All varieties of the later issues are also shown.

Heliogoland was arranged by one of the leading German experts, only two or three years ago, and is well filled out with a very fine lot of shades. The country is complete, unused, and shows many extras in used condition.

Passing Honduras, which, however, contains a really good lot of the issues for Comayagua and Telucigalpa, next in order comes a very pretty little lot of Hong Kong. Here may be seen a pleasing lot of unused, well-centered copies, including an exceedingly bright eighteen-cent "C. C." unused, with original gum. Almost every value is represented by two or more shades, and the surcharged stamps, all the way through, seem to be complete. There is, particularly, a fine, used pair of the seven-cent on ten-cent, green, with double surcharge. There is also an especially fine and complete lot of postal fiscals—used, as they should be.

The scarce, lithographed set of Hungary is shown, both new and used; also the set in pairs—imperforate,—although these latter were never put into use, but are, of course, desirable to a specialist. The latter issues are complete, unused.

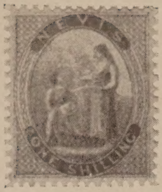
Iceland is shown complete and unused, with a considerable number of oddities in the way of imperforates.

Under India may be seen, in the first issue, the one-half anna red and the other values unused and used, in pairs. Of the 1855 issue, there are fine unused copies of the two-annas green, and also the rose. All the later issues are shown in many shades. The service surcharges are complete, as are also the postal fiscals, including fine copies of the long four-anna and eight-anna. Apropos of these latter, a story is told by a western collector, that is amusing, to say the least:—He once sent some auction bids to an eastern dealer, on some of these stamps. Upon the receipt of returns from the sale, he was startled to read in the dealer's letter, that he had cancelled his bids on these particular stamps, as the perforations at top and bottom were entirely cut off! !

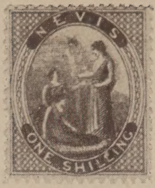
The writer must confess to too little knowledge concerning the intricacies of Jammu and Kashmere, to do them justice. Of these, and the other native states there are several pages which doubtless contain many fine things for the student of Indian issues. The surcharges on the stamps of India, for the native states, are, however, a different matter, and here we find many fine errors, to delight the heart of the specialist, in Faridkot, Gwalior, Jhind and Patiala. Mention of the interesting stamps of Scinde should not be overlooked. The complete set is shown and includes, as well, several varieties of the one-half anna white.

The first issues of Italy, (Sardinia), are shown in several copies of each value,—both new and used, while the later issues are complete in shades, unused. The newspaper stamps include all the varieties of inverted figures, and in the 1878 set of official stamps, most of the scarce inverts are shown, some in unused condition.

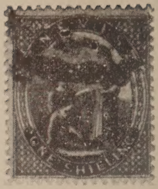
In Jamaica, the scarce "pineapple" set is shown, in a multitude of shades,—both new and used. Of the scarce "split" of the one-penny blue, there may be seen five specimens, all used on the "original cover"—the "covers", in these instances, being the tops of various copies of a newspaper, "Public Opinion." One of these pieces of paper bears one whole stamp and half of another, while on the paper is written, "3 papers, paid."


NEVIS
ONE SHILLING

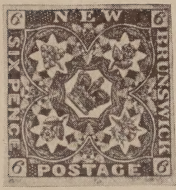
Nevis
1 sh. on bluish paper
1861


NEVIS
ONE SHILLING

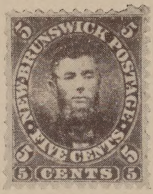
Nevis
1 sh. yellow green, 1867
No. 9 on the plate, showing the
variety "Cross on Hill"


NEVIS
ONE SHILLING

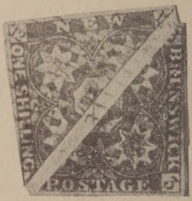
Nevis
1 sh. yellow green
on laid paper


6 NEW 6
SIX PENCE
BRUNSWICK
6 POSTAGE 6

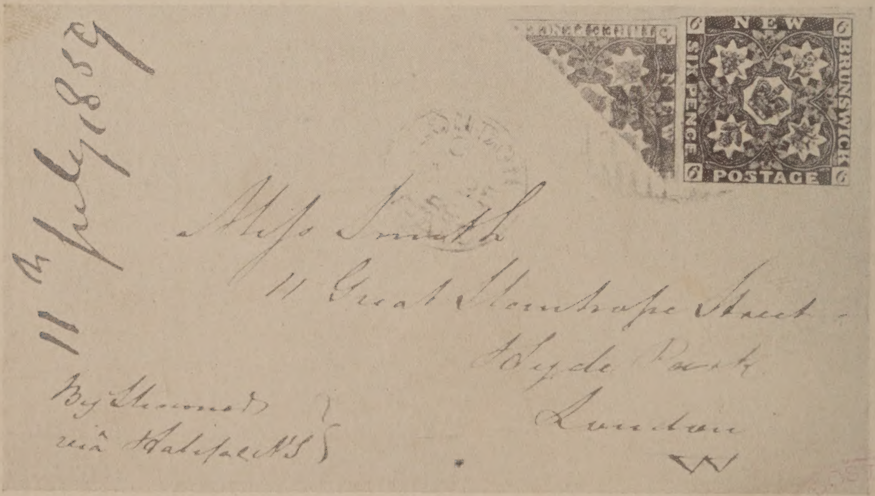
New Brunswick
6d. yellow, unused and mint


5 NEW BRUNSWICK POSTAGE 5
FIVE CENTS
5 CENTS 5

New Brunswick
5c. brown, Connell


NEW
ONE SHILLING
BRUNSWICK
POSTAGE

New Brunswick
half of 1 sh. used with half a 3d.
to make 7½d. rate


NEW BRUNSWICK
SIX PENCE
6 POSTAGE 6

11 July 1859

Miss Smith
11 Great Stanhope Street
Hyde Park
London
W

By Steamer
via Halifax N.S.

New Brunswick, 6d. used with half a 3d. to make 7½d. rate

BOSTON
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The later issues are complete, including all the varieties of the "two-pence half-penny" surcharge. There is also a fine assortment of postal fiscals.

There is a very good lot of Japan. In the first series are two fine unused copies of the yellow-green, and another of the even scarcer pale yellow green. The 30s. on thick wove paper, 1873, is here, but in used condition, while on the thin laid paper of 1876, are shown the rare 10s. pale yellow green, and the 20s. red violet, both unused. In the syllabics, the extremely rare 10s. green, plate I, unused, appears. Throughout these early issues, the stamps are carefully separated by perforation, as is also true of the later issues.

Under Labuan is a choice array, including all the rarities. The first set is complete, unused. The "C. C." upright set is complete and unused, except for the 40-cent. In the rare set of 1880 surcharges, the 6 on 16-cent, blue, with additional value surcharged across original value, and a pair of the "8" on 12-cent, with pen obliteration of the original value, are shown. The right hand stamp of this pair is with the "8" inverted. Next there are two mint copies of the one-dollar manuscript surcharge.[1] The rare "2 cents" in "caps" on 16 cents, is shown unused. In the surcharges of 1891, there is a full sheet of the 6 on 8-cent purple, with black surcharge, inverted, one of which is a double impression. The same surcharge, only in red, is shown also inverted in used condition. The remaining two varieties of this set,—the 6 on 16 cent, and the 6 on 40-cent, are also here unused, with surcharge inverted. In the 1893 surcharges there is a fine unused copy of the "six-cents" on 16-cent, gray, with inverted surcharge. The rest of the country is shown in unused condition.

Lagos has been a favorite country with many collectors, and in this connection, Dr. Bowers is no exception. Both "C. C." sets are complete, unused, and very fine. The set of high values of the 1885 issue has already been mentioned in an earlier chapter as having cost Dr. Bowers eight dollars and forty cents. It is a matter of merely passing interest to say that a similar set, today, would cost, probably, in the neighborhood of one hundred and twenty dollars.

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[1] Illustrated.

Under Liberia is shown an entire page of the first type, while the later issues are complete, unused.

Under Lubeck is shown a very pretty block of eight of the 2s., in which are included the "zwei ein halb" errors, two of which occur in a sheet. This is an excellent way in which to have the error.

Luxemburg is shown both used and unused. Of minor varieties, there are a number of errors in the spelling of "centimes", occasioned by broken letters; such as, "centines" and "centites." The officials contain many inverts and double surcharges.

A complete collection of the regular varieties is shown under Madeira, and starting with the 1871 issue, they are arranged by perforation as well.

In Malta, the early one-half pennies appear in force, showing all the shades and papers, but really the scarcest piece in this country is a pretty pair of the four-pence brown, 1885, imperforate, unused. Everything else is here in mint condition.

That grand old country, Mauritius, is well represented. In the "post-paids" may be seen an exceedingly early impression of the one-penny on yellowish paper. This is so early an impression as to have almost the appearance of a "post-office." Another copy, not quite so early, is on bluish paper, and there are also four very early impressions of the two-pence, one of which is on the entire. Of the intermediate state, there is a pretty copy of the one-penny, and a particularly handsome two-pence on the cover. There are also half a dozen copies of the later impressions in varying conditions. Then come fine, unused pairs of the scarcer values of the "Brittania seated" set, and a block of four, used, of the nine-pence, which is a very unusual piece. There are three very fine "fillets,"[1] with uncommonly good margins for this stamp, followed by a whole row of the "Greek borders," but these are all used. The very attractive 1860 set is shown in multitudinous shades, both of

[1] Illustrated.

the unwatermarked series, and of the "C. C." as well. The later issues are all present, including several inverted surcharges, and a number of the rare envelopes are shown.

The one rare stamp of Mecklenburg-Schwerin[1] appears in a beautiful mint copy, showing roulettes on all four sides (the illustration does not do it justice) and in Mecklenburg-Strelitz, are the three rare ones, used.

Mexico is well represented in this collection, generally speaking, nearly all of the regular issues appearing. The rare Saltillo surcharges are shown, both new and used. These bear the guarantee of one of the best-known foreign dealers. As well may be noted two fine three-cent brown, eagle, and the early issues abound in every possible bi-section. The later issues are carefully gone into for paper varieties, and the various errors of color.

The exceedingly interesting issues of Guadalajhara present a fine appearance. Many of the rare serrated perforations are shown, and a fair share of all these stamps are used on the letter. Several of the very rare Campeche are shown, but the Chiapas are conspicuous by their absence.

Under Modena is shown the one-lira, used, on a piece, and also the scarce, large "B. G." Most of the errors are also shown.

Montserrat is shown complete, unused, together with several stamps bi-sected or tri-sected, particularly the one-penny split, and used as a half-penny, and the six-pence, tri-sected and used as two-pence. The rare one-penny postal fiscal is also here.

The first set of Natal is shown complete, and of the three-pence there is a very pretty pair, as well as an extraordinarily large single. The "Postage" surcharges lack but very few of completeness, but for the most part, are in used condition. Five of the very scarce shillings are shown, but as usual, they are rather indifferent specimens. The later issues are practically complete, and show many varieties of surcharge. Besides several inverts and doubles, may be seen the scarce two-pence-half-penny on four-pence brown, showing the "PENGE" error.

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[1] Illustrated.

In Netherlands the early issues are shown, both used and unused, and well-shaded. Particular mention may be made of the 1867 set, imperforate. The later issues are arranged by perforation, and are quite complete, unused. In the postage dues there is a fine unused copy of the 12 1-2 cent blue, type IV.

Dr. Bowers' Nevis must be classed as a really fine lot, although he has made no attempt at plating this country. The rare bluish papers are all here, unused, and in the finest possible condition. In the grayish papers all the values are shown unused, the four-pence and six-pence in three shades each. Of the perforated 15, he shows a superb copy of the yellow green shilling[1] unused—it being No. 9 on the plate, the variety "cross on hill." Then comes *the* great rarity of this country, the shilling on laid paper.[1] This is a particularly fine used copy, as reference to the illustration will show. Of the lithographs he shows two each of the four-pence and six-pence, and four of the shilling. A very rare and interesting cover is one bearing the six-pence lithographed and several of the one-penny "C. C." bi-sected and used as half-pennies. The "C. C." and "C. A." sets are shown several times over, and of the six-pence green, three fine copies grace his pages. One highly interesting, and, it is thought, hitherto unmentioned variety, is half a lithographed shilling bearing the surcharge of 1883, as applied to the bi-sected one-penny. This is used on the entire cover.

British North America has always been a favorite group with Dr. Bowers, and evidences for the truth of the statement are not lacking. In the pence issue of New Brunswick are shown the three-pence and six-pence unused,[1] o. g., while the shilling, of which he shows three copies, are all used. Of the three-pence and six-pence used there are about a dozen copies, some on covers. His copy of the Connell is in as fine condition as one could wish. Many of these lack the perforations on at least one side and frequently on two. This copy has the perforations on all four sides and is finely centered, as reference to the plate will indicate. One of the most interesting lines of effort for the collector is the "split" of British North America. Here again may be found varieties which doubtless were made without any "proper authority." However, there existed an absolute necessity for many of these "splits" and when the rates then in effect are considered, the necessity for them will be apparent. The single letter rate from the Provinces to England was 7 1-2 pence, but of all the provinces, Canada alone had a 7 1-2 pence stamp. Thus, to make up this exceedingly common rate, it was necessary for the people of other provinces to divide or "split" a stamp. When absolutely necessary action like this has been taken, "proper authority" seems rather superfluous. This is clearly shown by a cover, which is illustrated, bearing the six-pence New Brunswick and half a three-pence to make the 7 1-2 pence rate. It will be noted that the letter is directed to London. In some instances, also, splits were made where the resulting denomination already existed, but doubtless this may be explained through a temporary shortage of the value required. Thus, born out of necessity, came the habit which resulted in the "split" stamp.

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[1] Illustrated.

The belief is growing with many collectors that these bi-sected stamps were kept in the post-office drawer, all cut, and were sold just like entire stamps of other denominations. Evidence is not lacking to support this belief. A well-known cover which bears a six-pence and half a three-pence New Brunswick on both ends, making up the double rate of fifteen pence, is a case in point. If the three-pence stamps were not kept already cut, why not have used the pair of six-pence, and a whole three-pence uncut? It would seem patent, that to make up the foreign rate, three-pence stamps at least, were kept in the bi-sected condition. In Nova Scotia, Dr. Bowers shows a cover bearing two halves of two different six-pence dark green[1] to pay the rate to Boston, which was ten cents. This is illustrated as another example to show that these splits were kept on hand already cut up, and in this instance, each half did duty as three-pence. While on the subject of splits, it may not be amiss to mention a strip of the twenty-cent green Confederate

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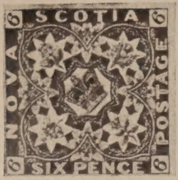
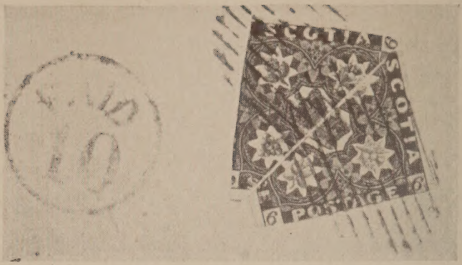
[1] Illustrated.


NOVA SCOTIA
POSTAGE
SIX PENCE
6

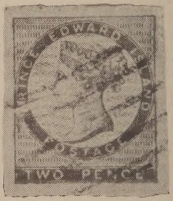
Nova Scotia
6d. dark green, unused


PAID
10
SCOTIA
POSTAGE
6

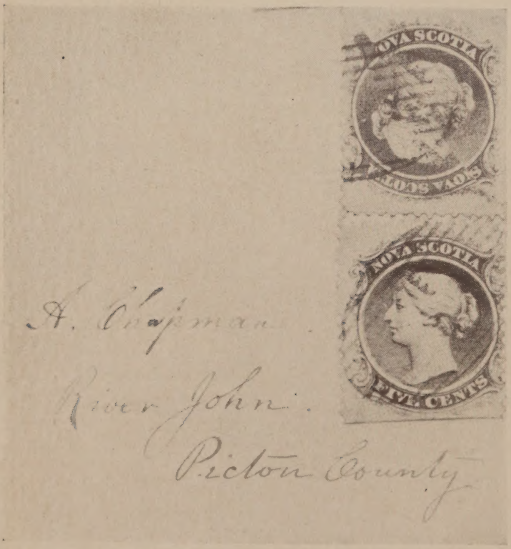
Nova Scotia, two halves of different 6d. stamps
used together as 6d.

ANNAPOLIS
OC 28
1857
Geo H. Tobias

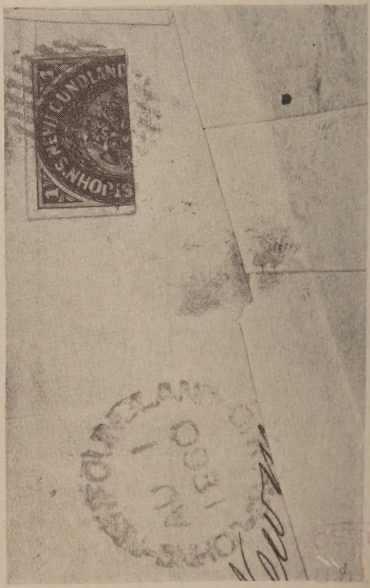
Nova Scotia, vertical half of 6d. dark green, used as 3d.


PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
POSTAGE
TWO PENCE

Prince Edward Island
2d. rose, rouletted


NOVA SCOTIA
FIVE CENTS
A. Chapman
River John.
Picton County

Nova Scotia, half of 5c., half of 2c. and a whole 5c.
used as 8½c.


NEWFOUNDLAND
ST JOHNS
1860

Newfoundland, half of 1sh. scarlet
used as 6d.

States, general issue. As is well known, this stamp was bisected diagonally and each half was used as ten cents. In the collection of Francis C. Foster, Esq., of Boston, whose name has been mentioned elsewhere, is a strip of three of this stamp, each one of which is cut diagonally way across, except for a bit of paper at the top to hold it. This strip, found in a Southern post-office by a Northern officer during a cavalry raid, and given Mr. Foster by Mr. Zevely, when Third Assistant Postmaster-General of the United States, shows that these stamps were kept in stock to be used either as twenty cents, or half as ten cents. This is offered merely as contributory evidence from another part of the world, and it may be of value in its bearing on the question of bi-sections in general. In passing, it may be said that there is nothing really mysterious about the "split." The necessity has been shown, and it is known also that they were in legitimate use. But what is of even greater importance is the fact that they do not exist in these early issues as the result of the personal influence of interested philatelists.

Probably the rarest of the British North American splits is the quarter of the shilling New Brunswick, and of this Dr. Bowers shows a superb specimen on the entire. Then there is half a shilling used with half a three-pence to make the 7 1-2 pence[1] rate. He also shows two of the six-pence divided and used as three-pence on separate covers.

Newfoundland is not as strong as it should be. Both the scarlet and orange sets are shown only in used condition. Then there is a superb copy of that really scarce stamp—the one-penny reddish brown. Rather "off" shades of the brown violet are usually offered as the reddish brown. It should be remembered that the brown violet is printed on thick paper, while the reddish brown is on the later and thinner paper. It is in a deeper and richer color than the five-pence reddish brown. Among the splits of Newfoundland there are some very interesting pieces. There is a fine upper half of the scarlet shilling[1] used as six-pence on a good-sized piece, also a vertical half of the shilling orange used in the same way, and

[1] Illustrated.

three different splits of the eight-pence scarlet, one used in conjunction with a three-pence, making seven-pence in all. An extremely rare cover is one bearing the one-penny brown violet with half another joined, together with a ten-cent of the next issue, making, in all probability, the 12 1-2 cent rate, even though the amount used is thirteen cents, as they were not at all exact as to payment of postage in the old days as long as enough was affixed. This is the first time that a split of this stamp has come to our notice, and it is of increased interest, used at such a late date,—in this case being postmarked at "Harbor Britain, Nov. 30, 1868."

In Nova Scotia may be noted a repetition of the stamps of New Brunswick. The reddish-violet shilling is shown unused and the cold violet used; two fine and very deep shades of the six-pence dark green[1], unused; and the other values in many shades, used. The splits, too, are extremely interesting. Again may be seen several covers bearing combinations to make the 7 1-2 pence rate, one composed of a pair of three pence and half another *se tenant.* There may be seen a particularly pretty split of the six-pence yellow green used with half a three-pence to make 4 1-2d. This is a very rare piece indeed. Besides one cover bearing a six-pence, used with half a six-pence *se tenant,* as nine-pence, there are several halves of the six-pence used on separate covers as three-pence. The two halves of two different six-pence, used on the same cover, as mentioned a little earlier, under New Brunswick, are illustrated. These are on the entire, but only a corner of the envelope is illustrated. Vertical splits of the six-pence Nova Scotia are exceptionally rare—usually being cut diagonally. He shows both the dark green and the yellow green[1] cut vertically. The cents issue of Nova Scotia are very rarely met bi-sected, but here is shown a most remarkable cover, bearing half of a five-cent, half a two-cent, and a whole five-cent, to make the 8 1-2 cent[1] rate. This was postmarked at "Wolfville, N. S. Jan. 27, 1863." This is doubtless an instance of the exhaustion of the 8 1-2 cent stamp, hence the sender made up the required rate by bisecting two other stamps. They are arranged very prettily on

[1] Illustrated.

the cover, the half of the five being uppermost. This piece must be of the greatest rarity—possibly even unique. There are several of the ten-cent vermilion cut diagonally, vertically and horizontally and used for five-cents.

While speaking of British North America, it may be well to look at the Prince Edward Island stamps. He shows in this country rather a small lot, although everything is present in the regular issues as well as several scarce part perforate pairs. There are also several of the rare splits, as well as the two-pence rouletted,[1] which is an exceedingly scarce stamp. One of the most interesting of the splits is half a nine-pence used as 4 1-2 pence, and written over the stamp in red ink are the figures "4 1-2d.", so here is a manuscript surcharge as well as a split! The two-pence, four-pence, and six-pence split, and used for half their expressed value are also shown.

In order to take the British North American Provinces together, it has been necessary to skip possibly the best country, among the foreign, in this collection—New South Wales. Here no less than three hundred and seventy-five Sydney Views are shown, three hundred and fifty of them being in remarkable plates, which won two medals at the London Exhibition in 1897. At that time these plates were said to be the finest extant. It was suggested, in speaking of Dr. Bowers as being of the old school, that yet he was endowed with great foresight—born of true collecting instincts—appreciating and seeking only stamps in fine condition. Here one of the best examples is shown of his discriminating tastes. Although the majority were gathered fifteen or more years ago, his Sydney Views are in excedingly fine condition. Even after bringing them up to the present standard of completeness, he has continually been searching for finer copies still, to improve those he already possesses. Feeling that it could serve no real purpose, the plates have not been illustrated. One could not gather from a mere illustration, even a slight appreciation of the many copies which show to a remarkable degree, very early impression, beautiful coloring and very light cancellation. All these characteristics uniting to please in the highest

[1] Illustrated.

degree the most discriminating collector. Others who have been privileged to look through his Australians have been equally surprised at such a choice gathering. On approaching them more closely, may be seen plate I of the one-penny complete, including four very fine pairs. This plate, even taken as a whole, impresses one with the general lightness of cancellation. He shows also the same plate on ribbed paper, complete, including five magnificent pairs.

Plate II of the one-penny, on wove is complete and very beautiful, including three rich pairs. The same plate on laid paper lacks a single number, and this is not one of the errors. Included in this plate are five pairs, one of which shows the error "no trees."

Plate I of the two-pence is shown complete, all in very fine singles. Plate I re-touched shows probably all the positions that were so treated. Plate II is one of the gem plates of the series, including some wonderfully strong early impressions in the very deep blue. One position is filled by a particularly choice and early impression of the rare violet-blue. Three pairs are shown, one being a vertical pair of No. 1 and No. 13, thus showing the error "crevit" omitted. Plate II is shown also on ribbed paper, and here lacks only six copies to completeness. A very handsome strip of three and a pair are included. Plate III is complete and exceedingly fine, including two pairs, one of which shows the variety "six-segments." Plate III—1st retouch on wove is shown lacking but five positions and includes several of the rare lilac blue. The same plate on laid paper shows but two positions lacking, and there are three very fine pairs included. Plate III—second retouch on wove, lacks but a single copy and is a particularly fine plate. The same on laid paper seems to be the least complete of the set—there being eleven positions vacant. However, those present are very fine, and possibly other equally fine copies have not been as yet forthcoming to supply his wants. The three-pence on yellowish wove lacks eight copies of being complete. This, however, is a very creditable showing, as the copies exhibited are really very good indeed, and ordinarily this is a most difficult stamp to obtain in even fair condition. Several of those present are the rare myrtle green.

The three-pence on bluish wove is shown complete and includes three very fine pairs, one of which is the scarce emerald green, and in superb condition. He shows an extra plate on ribbed paper, but he has evidently not pressed to complete this, as he has secured only ten positions of it so far. There are several fine "emeralds" among the ten, however, and one very striking pair. The three-pence on laid paper lacks twelve copies, but most of those present are the very rare bluish laid, even including a pair of this rarity.

It seems extraordinary that any one man could have gotten together such a marvelous lot of plates of these beautiful "Sydney Views" when even equally fine singles are difficult to obtain in the market.

The laureated issues also are shown plated, and these consist of no less than four hundred and thirty specimens in all. The one-penny on bluish is shown complete, including eleven pairs. The two-pence plate I is complete also, and includes two blocks of four; a very fine horizontal strip of four from the bottom of the sheet showing the engraver's imprint; and two strips of three. The two-pence, plate II, "star in corner" is very nearly complete. The two-pence, plate III, is lacking nine copies of being complete. Doubtless all of these plates could be speedily completed were it not for the exacting standard set and adhered to by Dr. Bowers, in the matter of condition. The three-pence is shown lacking only a few positions of being complete and includes four very pretty blocks of four —one of which contains the "Waces" error,—and also several pairs. The six-pence, plate I, is shown lacking eight positions, and plate II lacks only six positions. These two plates are very fine. Of the eight-pence, only about half of the plate is shown, but these are all good copies, and include a very fine example of the "no leaves" variety.

The plates of the one-penny, two-pence and three-pence watermarked are shown very nearly complete with a fair number of pairs and strips. What is possibly the most beautiful of all these plates, however, is that of the "registered," imperforate. This is completed entirely in the carmine shade and is one of the most striking pieces in the entire collection.

Besides the plates, New South Wales throngs with many of her beautiful old issues. Of the rare errors of the one-penny on bluish laid[1] all three are present and the "Wale," which is particularly fine, is chosen for illustration. A number of very fine Sydney Views, aside from the plates, are shown on the cover, perhaps the best one being a marvelous copy of the three-pence myrtle green. Among the separate laureated is seen a fine pair of the six-pence on the letter, and also a block of six including the "WALLS" error. Unfortunately, this last has two slight tears. In the watermarked, laureated, may be seen the rare error of the three-pence, watermarked double lined "2." The square issues are very fine, the imperforates including a multitude of fine shades, mostly used. There is a particularly fine copy of the five-pence used, with very clear dated cancellation, "August 10, 1858," which guarantees its imperforate condition, it having been used almost two years prior to the issue of perforated stamps. In the perforated issue the perforated 12 set is shown complete. The six-pence, purple, watermarked double lined "5" is shown unused and the two-pence, no watermark, London print, perforate 14, appears in a very brilliant unused specimen. The later issues are very full, the various perforation having been very thoroughly gone into. The "O. S." are very complete also.

In New Zealand another fine lot of Australians is found including about one hundred and sixty copies of the long, early design. All of the early issues are here in row after row, unused and used. The best things of this type are found among the roulettes and serrated perforations. Of the thick paper, no watermark may be noticed, the one-penny orange with pin perforation 6; the six-pence,[1] chestnut,—exceedingly rare in this color,—and the one-shilling blue-green, with serrated perforation. All these varieties of this particular set are rare and difficult in the extreme to secure. Of the pelure paper may be noted the one-penny, two-pence, six-pence and one-shilling, perforated 13, and another shilling of the same set rouletted. The one-penny and six-pence, "star" are shown rouletted and unused, both being exceedingly rare in this condition. The two-pence of the same set is shown with serrated perforation. In the "N. Z." set may be seen the one-penny, rouletted. Then an unlisted variety is noted—the one-shilling with pin perforation at top and bottom and with the regular perforation, 13, at the side. In the 1875 issue there is an unused copy of the scarce one-penny deep lilac—"large star." This is a very difficult stamp to secure, as anyone will attest who has tried to find it. The later issues are shown in all perforations, and are a fine lot. Of the postal fiscals there is a surprisingly complete collection, among the early ones being a fine one-penny red, perce en scie.

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[1] Illustrated.

A fine lot of the 1893-94 surcharges of Niger Coast are shown, and all the later split provisionals. Possibly the best stamp here is the 1-2 penny surcharged in black on the 2 1-2 penny blue. There were but nineteen of these overprinted. This should become a great rarity after being "seasoned" for a few years. He also shows fine copies of both the five-shilling and ten-shilling surcharges. Of the former twenty-eight were printed, and of the latter thirty-two.

North Borneo is here quite complete, including that very rarely seen one-cent orange "North Borneo Postage" in the regular perforation 14. All the surcharges seem to be here, with some inverts. He shows an entire sheet of the 6-cents on eight-cent green, containing the two errors—inverted "C" in "Cents" and "Cetns,"—both very scarce.

Norway is shown complete unused and with many extra shades, the first three sets showing off to fine advantage in their bright fresh appearance.

In Oldenburg there is a fine assortment without specializing—just the country complete, and with the exception of the first three stamps, both new and used. There may be noted the 1-3 gr. unused and used and a fine copy of the 3 gr. on yellow. In the 1860 set there is shown the 1-4 orange, very delicately used. This is scarce. The moss green is shown both ways. The error "Dritto" is also present.

A very good lot of Orange River Colony is shown—rich in the early surcharges, but mostly used.

A very interesting lot of Peru is here, chief among them being two copies of the "Medio error,"[1] and a magnificent one-real blue of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company used on the entire—a piece of the greatest rarity. There are two very fine copies of the "medio peso" orange, used on a small piece of the cover. The early issues, with all their wealth of interest in retouches and curious printings are surprisingly complete. The Chilean stamps used in Peru are all shown, including a pair of the scarce one-cent slate. The surcharged issues are very complete and include many inverts and doubles. The local overprints are shown in quantity and contain many of the scarcest varieties.

The early issues of Philippines are shown in fine condition, and as a rule several of each value are here, but mostly used. There are three of the five-cent orange and a fine unused copy of the ten-cent rose.[1] Of the one-real slate blue, there is a fine single, new, also a pair and two singles used, and the rare "corros" error,[1] in a magnificent used specimen. The latter is lightly cancelled in the right-hand upper corner and the word "corros" is, as a result, very plainly visible. The two-reals green is shown in a superb unused o. g. copy, and also another one used. There are three fine used copies of the five-cent, 1855.

The issues from 1856 to the "Habilitados" are represented by a profusion of copies, both new and used, and some blocks. The "Habilitados" are complete, many being shown both new and used. Particularly worthy of note is the one-real violet, with double surcharge used, and its companion stamp, the two-real blue, used. The rare one-real blue is shown unused, with double surcharge. This is an exceedingly rare piece indeed. The later issues are very fine, and all the scarce stamps are shown, frequently two or three times over.

[1] Illustrated.

In Porto Rico, the early paraphes are shown complete and with a few varieties, such as double surcharges. The later issues are well done in shades and so forth, and include many imperforate pairs. A full sheet of the Coamo is shown.

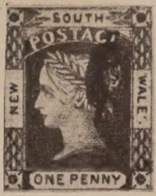
Portugal is collected along general lines and with the exception of the 50r. and 100r. of the first set, practically everything is shown unused. A few fine pairs through the early issues liven up the pages and make them very attractive. The later issues are arranged by perforations.

Prussia is rather weak, as the really rare unused ones are lacking. The best stamp shown is the scarce 2 sg. blue of the rouletted set. This is a mint copy.

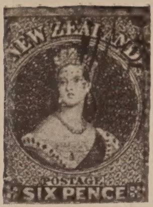
Queensland, like the other Australians, is seen to be a favorite. The first set is shown in fine singles and the six-pence in a pair, used with a copy of the "registered." The six-pence in a pair is very much more difficult to secure than the other values. The rare one-penny, large "star," clean cut, is shown unused. The clean cut, small "star" set is complete, the three-pence being new. The rare Indian red penny is shown unused and used, as are also the rest of this set. The issues all through are very complete and include largely unused as well as used, although in the case of the scarce two-pence perforate 12x13, a single used copy only is shown. Of the lithographed issue there is a handsome four-pence buff unused, the higher values in mint singles, and the ten-shilling is shown in a marvelously perfect unused, o. g. pair. The country ends in a fine lot of the postal fiscals.

In Reunion are seen two master rarities. Both the 15c.[1] and 30c.[1] are here and in very fine condition for these stamps. Very many less of these two stamps are seen in America, at least, than of the 13-cent "Hawaiian Postage" Missionary, and yet the latter commands a much higher price. Both of these are illustrated. It will be seen that the 15c. is cancelled by a pen stroke. The 30c. is cancelled by a very delicate design in blue dots, but these do not show very plainly in the illustration. The rest of the country is complete, including many of the errors of surcharge.

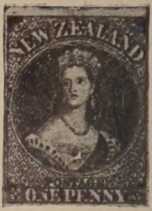
[1] Illustrated.


SOUTH
POSTAGE
NEW
WALE.
ONE PENNY

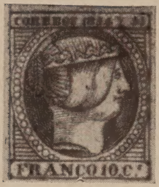
New South Wales, Error
1d. "Wale" on bluish
laid paper


NEW ZEALAND
POSTAGE
SIX PENCE

New Zealand, 6d. chestnut
thick paper, no watermark
serrated perforation

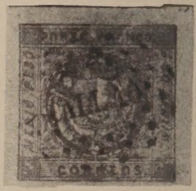

NEW ZEALAND
ONE PENNY

New Zealand, 1d. "star"
rouletted, unused

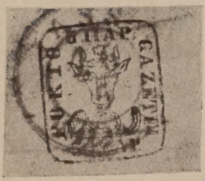

FRANCO 10 C.s

Philippines, 10c. rose, 1854

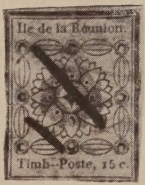
Philippines, 1r. slate blue
"corros" error



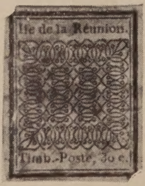
Peru, "Medio." rose
error



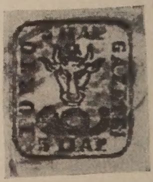
Roumania, 5p. black on
bluish


Ile de la Réunion.
Timb.-Poste, 15 c.

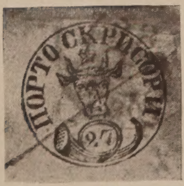
Reunion, 15c. on bluish
1852


Ile de la Réunion.
Timb.-Poste, 30 c.

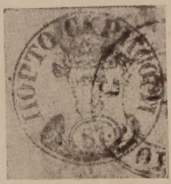
Reunion, 30c. on bluish
1852



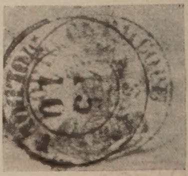
Romania, 5p. black on
white



Moldavia, 27par. on rose



Moldavia, 81par. blue



Moldavia, 108par. blue
on rose

Rhodesia makes a very pretty showing, being complete unused. Roumania must be the banner country among the Europeans for here he shows the full set of Moldavia and as these are all illustrated, the reader may readily seen what full margins they possess. In all cases the cancellations are very light, much more so than shown in the illustrations. The 81 p. is cancelled very lightly in pale blue; the 27 p. also; while the 108 p. is cancelled in red, so in all cases the design shows very clearly. The 54 p. is lightly post-marked on the cover. Then come the rare 5p. on both bluish[1] and white[1] used. Both these are particularly fine. The 80p. red on bluish is shown in two used copies. The 1862 set is shown in quantity, unused and used and in every possible shade as well as very many odd cancellations. One very curious piece is half of the 6p. vermilion used as 3p. on a piece of a newspaper. Roumania must rank as one of Dr. Bowers' best countries, from point of completeness. The issues up to 1872 are shown unused and used, there being several of each value in both conditions. Many of the rare laid papers are shown. Of the 1876-78 issue there are present many part perforate and imperforate varieties in pairs, and a profusion of shades. The later issues are all arranged by perforation, and appear to be complete—mostly unused.

Dr. Bowers shows some very fine things in Russia, though the first perforated set is used, and they really ought to be new in such an otherwise fine lot. The regular sets are all shown in fine mint condition. In the 1868 issue he shows the 1k. in an horizontal imperforate pair, used, and the rare 8k. on vertically laid paper, unused. In the 1882 set the 2k. imperforate is shown in a vertical pair used, the 7k. in a single, imperforate with very large margins, and used on a small piece, and also a pair unused. The rare surcharge, 7k. on half of the 14k. is shown used on the entire. The 2k of 1890 is shown in an unused pair, imperforate.

Under "Offices in the Turkish Empire" are both shades of the 6k. blue, one of which is mint with o. g. The 2k. and 20k. of 1865 are very beautiful copies. The later issues are all

[1] Illustrated.

shown with the vertically laid paper as well as the horizontal and the issues of Livonia seem to be complete.

St. Christopher is shown complete unused and used, including several interesting bi-sections of the 1d. "C. C." perforated 14. The surcharged issues from 1886 to 1890 are complete, including the minor varieties, such as pairs, one showing the period after the value, and the other lacking it; also the one-penny on half-penny, without line though original value. There may be noted as well, in this country, one of the rarities of the whole collection—the very rare small "one penny" surcharge on 2 1-2 d. with the surcharge inverted and unused. This stamp with surcharge normal commands a very high price, and inverted, it is of the greatest rarity. Lastly may be noted the Antigua penny used provisionally in St. Christopher. This is shown in a single, used on a whole newspaper, and in a pair used on a letter.

St. Helena is well represented. Among the early issues are shown a fine unused strip of three of the six-pence, imperforate—a scarce thing—and several singles. Also a number of the one-penny on six-pence, imperforate, showing the different lengths of surcharge. The after issues are shown quite complete in fine unused condition.

St. Lucia is represented by a great variety of shades. Of the first set watermarked "star" may be noted several fine copies of each value. The sets following are well filled out in the finest possible condition. A fine lot of postal fiscals complete this country.

The rich old issues of St. Vincent are in extra fine shape. The unwatermarked, rough perforation 14-16 set is shown unused with shades and the set perforated, 11-13, is also shown unused and extremely fine. The "star" rough perforation, are shown in several fine unused copies. In the clean cut may be noted the very rare pale yellow green of 1878 unused and mint—a rare stamp—also two fine shades of the blue green. Of the 11-13 set, the four-pence and one-shilling claret are unused—the others used. The 1880-81 set is shown complete unused and very brilliant. The five-shillings is chosen for illustration. The surcharges are all here in fine condition. The 1-2d. on 6d. is shown in a pair, and also in a single, with fraction bar omitted. There is a handsome unused pair of the 1d. on 6d.[1] with surcharge on the right hand half dropped below that on the left, also a single of this stamp used. The "one-penny" on six-pence is shown unused, while the 4d. on one-shilling[1] is used, but an exceptionally fine and well centered copy. The C. A. 12 set is unused and mint, except for the 4d. dull blue which is used. The later issues are complete unused and include the scarce 4d. red-brown.

In Samoa quite a variety of the "express" stamps is shown including many of the first type. The after issues are separated by perforation, and the surcharges are shown in large numbers, including many varieties, among which may be seen a vertical pair of the 5d. on 4d. showing the upper one with the bar through the old value, and the lower one without.

Sarawak is complete, and includes, besides the regular sets some imperforates, pin perforates and the laid paper variety of the 1875 issue. Here is shown also the first type of the three-cent, 1869, engraved. This rare variety is printed in an orange brown shade on surface colored paper. It is of interest to note how this almost unknown variety came to exist. It is thought that samples, both engraved and lithographed, were submitted to the government of Sarawak. Naturally the element of cost entered into the settlement of the question, as to which they would have. Hence it was decided to have the stamps lithographed, the few engraved samples submitted being used for postal purposes. Less than half a dozen of the latter are known to exist.

In Saxony, the great rarity, the error, is lacking, but the rest of the country is shown in many fine shades, a fair proportion being unused. The 3pf. is shown only in a single used copy.

Passing Seychelles, which is complete, and includes several inverts and double surcharges, the writer comes to a fine lot of Sierra Leone. From the first imperforate six-pence down, everything is shown unused. In the "C. C. sideways" set there are imperforate copies of the four-pence and one-shilling, which although only singles, have satisfactory margins, and bear every indication of being genuinely imperforate. The scarce 1-2d. surcharge on the "C. C." is shown unused, and all the varieties on the "C. A." are present also. There is a fine lot of the 1897 "Postage and Revenue" surcharges, including several in strips, showing the various types.

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[1] Illustrated.

South Australia is equally strong with the other Australians, although in unused specimens it is rather weak. As a sample of the way this country is taken, reference to the first issue shows of the one-penny London print, two pairs and three singles, all used, however. There are six copies of the one-shilling orange, Colonial print, used. Then there is a two-pence rouletted, printed on both sides. The one-penny yellow green rouletted, and several other good shades are shown unused, and a number used. Of the "ten pence" in blue on orange red, rouletted, may be noted six fine used copies, and on yellow one unused, and four used. All the issues through the country, are accorded this same liberal treatment. One fine piece is a used copy of the ten-pence on nine-pence yellow, with surcharge inverted at top. Of the one-penny, perforated by rouletted, both shades are shown in mint condition, as well as a pair and five singles used. There are two used copies of the scarce perforated 12 1-2 x roulette. Of the perforated 11 1-2 may be seen a dozen used copies of the ten-pence in blue on nine-pence yellow. The rare error of watermark in this stamp, "Crown and S. A.," is also present, and is illustrated. Of the ten-pence in black on nine-pence yellow, compound perforation 10 with 11 1-2 or 12 1-2 may be noted two fine o. g. copies and a dozen cancelled specimens. Then comes an used four-pence purple, perforated 11 1-2 at top and bottom, and imperforate on sides, having wide ragged margins, and showing the next stamp on one side. It was manifestly "torn" apart.

The very rare three-pence black on four-pence deep blue, perforated 11 1-2 x 12 1-2 is shown. This is an exceedingly rare stamp and but seldom seen. The three-pence on four-pence blue, is shown in both the carmine and black surcharges in all perforations and frequently in three or four copies of each. The nine-pence, lilac rose, perforated 11 1-2 is shown unused with a distinct double impression. Every letter in both labels may be easily seen to be printed in duplicate. All the later issues are shown in a wealth of copies—mostly used, but as a rule each denomination is shown in at least one or two fine unused copies. Included among the 1880-93 issues is an unused copy of the six-pence bright ultramarine, perforated 10 x 11 1-2 on a very thick paper, almost a card-board.

The O. S. are gone into quite as thoroughly as the regular postage, all the perforations being collected. Of the first O. S. may be seen an used pair of the nine-pence mauve, perforated 11 1-2x12 1-2, without period after "S." This stamp is also shown, unused, and perforated, 11 1-2 without stop after "S." Of the broad star, are shown the six-pence, perforated 10x11 1-2 with "O. S." inverted, also the six-pence with long stop after "S." Of the perforation 11x12 1-2 is shown the two-shilling with inverted "O. S." In the "Crown and S. A.," close, perforated 10, there is a one-penny used, and showing only the "O," as the "S" is missing. The inverts and doubles are all shown used and also included are several two-pence without stop after "O." The very rare two-pence surcharged sideways is also present, but unfortunately is not perfect. In this set a rare thing is shown in an horizontal pair of the two-pence imperforate between. In the broad star issue of 1880-86 is found both the four-pence purple, perforated 11 1-2 and also 11 1-2x12 1-2, with surcharge inverted.

Beside the O. S., the rare departmentals are gone into thoroughly and there is shown a really fine lot, both new and used, all arranged by perforation. It may be well to mention a few of the better ones shown, and possibly the most satisfactory way to speak of these will be by number, according to the hand-book on South Australia by Napier & Smith. No. 253 is shown unused and very bright, and No. 255 used; No. 263 unused and fine; No. 266 used; No. 277 unused; No. 316 used; No. 378 is interestingly used on the entire; No. 407 used; No. 408 is shown used and printed on both sides, an extremely rare piece; No. 426 is shown unused and fine; No. 427 used; the letters "D. B." are also shown surcharged in blue on a used six-pence blue of issue 6, and if listed this would be No. 439a. This is thought to be unique. Unfortunately it is not a perfect copy. No. 448 used; No. 450 used, and fine; Nos. 452, 453 and 456 used; Nos. 460 and 461 unused; No. 473 used; No. 486 used; No. 495 unused and mint; No. 548 unused; No. 550 used; No. 561 used; No. 569 unused and mint; No. 576 used; No. 602 unused; No. 608 used; No. 609 new; No. 613 used; No. 633 new. Then is shown "N. T." in black on the one-penny green of issue 10, perforated 12 1-2,—a great rarity,—followed by a fine used pair of No. 667 imperforate between. No. 671 is shown with double surcharge used; No. 676 unused; No. 679 unused, mint; No. 692 used; No. 714 unused, and No. 721 unused and mint. Another unlisted stamp is "P. W." surcharged in black on the four-pence dull purple, of issue 15. This would be No. 729A. Then comes No. 738 unused; No. 777 unused; No. 817 used; Nos. 822 and 828, both unused and very fine; No. 848 used and No. 864 unused. From this short list of some of the better things, it will be seen that it is a really fine lot of these difficult stamps. The departmentals alone, fill half a volume and there are without doubt many fine things that escape the writer in trying to cover the entire collection so fully.

In Spain all of the rare two-reals are shown, but in used condition only. The three-cuartos Madrid is shown used, as is also the error, two reals of 1855 printed in blue. None of the earliest issues are shown unused and evidently those present were secured many years ago, as in recent years he has been taking almost nothing used. There are two copies of the one-real pale blue of 1854, one of which is illustrated. Starting with the 1856 issue, practically everything is shown both unused and used. The 12c. of 1865, with inverted frame, is shown in used condition. The Habilitados of 1868-9 are very complete. All the later issues are complete with many extra shades.

The two rare stamps of Stellaland and Swazieland are here. Of the "Twee" on four-pence it is said that but three hundred and eighty-four were overprinted, thus accounting for its scarcity, and of the ten-shilling Swazieland but three hundred were surcharged. Swazieland also includes several of the scarce inverted surcharges.

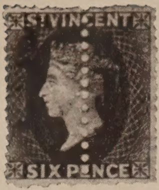
Straits Settlements is a country peculiarly adapted for specialists, but even here—although a general collector—Dr. Bowers shows a very substantial assortment. After the first two sets, which are complete, in finely centered condition, may be found a very good lot of the early surcharges—particularly of the ten-cent, showing the different types. These are about equally divided between unused and used. The 8-cent on twelve-cent is shown in several copies, the best among them being the variety with the blue surcharge[1], and large figure "8." The balance of the country is complete unused.

The surcharges for Bankok lack the two or three very rare "C. C." only, to make them complete. The surcharges for the several states are shown unused and include quite a number of errors,—the varieties spelt "Preak" and so forth, may be noticed particularly.

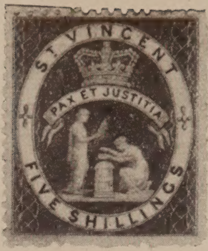
In Sweden, everything in the first issue is shown unused. Among the later good things are the scarce 17 o, gray of 1865, unused; o. g., and a very fine 6 o gray, perforated 14, new. The perforated 13 set, includes a beautiful "tretio" error, unused, and also the scarce 1 riksdaler, new. In the 1891 set may be noted unused imperforate pairs of the 5 o yellow green and the 10 o carmine.

Switzerland is a grand lot, and here are shown, first a lovely unused o. g. copy of the Basle, then a fine used copy of the double Geneva[1] and a whole row of the large and small eagles. It is a pleasure to look at such a beautiful lot of stamps. Those interesting old issues, the four r. and six r. Zurichs, have been plated. There is but a single stamp lacking in the plates and that is No. 4 of the horizontal lines of the 4r. Included in the plates are two unused copies of the four r.—a very rare stamp indeed, unused. The stamps formerly known as "Vaud," but

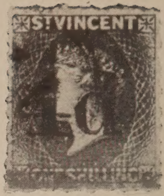
[1] Illustrated.


ST. VINCENT
SIX PENCE

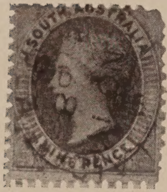
St. Vincent, 1d. on 6d.
showing variety
1d. dropped, on right half


ST. VINCENT
PAX ET JUSTITIA
FIVE SHILLINGS

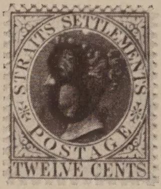
St. Vincent, 5shs. red
"Star"


ST. VINCENT
4d

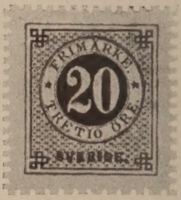
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1sh.
used


SOUTH AUSTRALIA
NINE PENCE

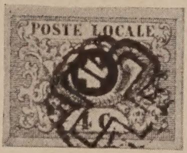
South Australia, 10d. on 9d.
"Crown and S. A."
error of watermark


STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
POSTAGE
TWELVE CENTS
8

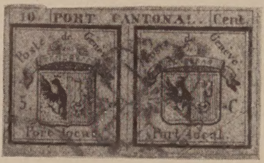
Straits Settlement, 8 on 12c.
with blue surcharge


FRIMÄRKE
20
TRETIO ÖRE
SVERIGE

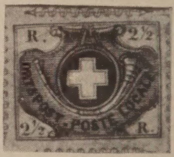
Sweden, 1878
"Tretio" error


POSTE LOCALE
4 C

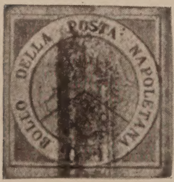
Switzerland, 4c. Geneva
formerly attributed to Vaud


10 PORT CANTONAL Cent.
Port Local
Port Local

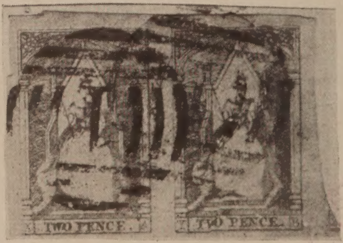
Switzerland, 10c. on yellow green
"Double Geneva"


R. 2½
2½ R.
POSTE LOCALE

Switzerland, 2½r. Zurich
formerly attributed to
Winthertur


BOLLO DELLA POSTA NAPOLETANA

Two Sicilies, ½t. blue, 1860


TWO PENCE
TVO PENCE

Victoria, 2d. lithographed, 1854
transfer variety "TVO"

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

now known to belong under Geneva are both shown in fine used condition, the four[1] being a perfect gem. The 2 1-2 Zurich[1] (heretofore commonly known as Withertur) is shown both used and unused, the latter being illustrated. Under the Federal Administration may be seen the 2 1-2 "post locale" without frame, and the 10r. black and red on yellow, with frame. There is a fine lot of the other stamps of this series, including quite a number unused. The next designs have been separated by the threads and include a great many unused copies. Among the postage dues of 1883 are shown the 50, 100 and 500c. ultramarine, with silk threads, unused.

Tasmania is another fine lot, but not quite up to the standard of the other Australians. He shows a nearly completed re-constructed plate of the one-penny blue, including several very fine copies, and a complete, very fine plate of the four-pence, including some pairs; a pair of the four-pence on fine ribbed paper used, and quite a few extra singles of both the one-penny and four-pence. The watermarked "star," and "no watermark" sets are shown in quantity used, and there are also several copies of the pelure, one-penny, used. Some fine unused are shown in the "double lined numeral" set, even some pairs, and strips of three, of the one-penny, two-pence and six-pence. Then there is a whole page devoted to the rare roulettes and pin perforations, rare as these varieties are. In the perforated 10 issue may be noted a superb two-pence, sage green, unused, with full o. g., and the rest of the set, both new and used. The sets perforated 12 and 12 1-2 are both well shown in unused and used copies. In the single lined numeral set may be seen a superb, unused, o. g. copy of the four-pence blue and the other values are present in shades unused. There is also an imperforate pair of the ten-pence black. The later issues are shown in the various perforations and in many shades. The rare one-penny vermilion of the perforation 11 1-2 set is shown only in a used copy, but other than this, everything else seems to be here unused. A very fine copy of the one-pound green and yellow is shown. There is also a very full lot of postal fiscals.

[1] Illustrated.

Tobago is shown complete unused, and of principal note are the five-shillings and one-pound, "C. C." The scarce manuscript surcharge one-penny on half of six-pence is shown, used on a small piece of the cover and the six-pence "C. A." is a very fine copy. The surcharges are very complete and contain the different spacings and also include the 1-2 penny on 2 1-2 pence ultramarine, with double surcharge.

In Tonga, with the exception of the inverted center, all the scarce stamps are shown, there being a pair and a single of the 1-2 on 7 1-2 on 2-pence of 1896, and the "1889" error for "1899." The regular issues seem to be complete and include many errors of surcharge.

Transvaal is a fine lot, and arranged according to the latest knowledge concerning these most complicated issues. In the first set may be seen the six-pence bright ultramarine unused and fine. Of the fine roulette, there are three pretty shades of the one-penny and several of the six-pence and one-shilling, among the latter being a superb deep green. Of the blobby impressions there are two fine specimens of the one-penny and a superb used one-shilling. The one-penny black on thin transparent paper is present in two fine examples. Of the pelure paper of 1876 may be seen the six-pence blue, pin perforated 16—a very rare stamp. Of this set may be seen also, among the fine roulettes, a superb copy of the three-pence lilac. In the stout, hard surfaced paper issue of 1876 are shown two fine copies of the six-pence, fine roulette, and of the wide roulette, both the one-penny and six-pence are shown. The rare milky blue six-pence of the coarse, soft, white paper set is present, used, and of this same set there is a brilliant unused copy of the shilling. Of the fine roulettes, the six-pence alone is shown.

Under the "First British Occupation" there are three of the red surcharge, particularly the six-pence blue, and one-shilling green. The three-pence lilac on pelure "V. R." and "TRANSVAAL", wide apart, is also shown in a fine used copy. Among the black surcharges "V. R. TRANSVAAL" all capitals, are shown the one-penny on pelure, fine roulette—an extremely rare stamp, and on hard-surfaced paper the one-penny wide roulette, with surcharge wide apart. In the coarse soft paper set, there is a very fine unused six-pence deep blue with full o. g. The six-pence bright blue is also shown unused. On this paper, in the fine roulette, is shown a superb three-pence lilac, unused and mint. There is also a superb used shilling with surcharge inverted. In the next issue with "V. R." upright, are seen the six-pence blue on rose, unused, fine roulette, with surcharge inverted, and that rare stamp, the six-pence blue on green, unused and mint, with surcharge inverted. Of the fine roulettes, he shows the six-pence blue on blue unused. Around these,—the scarcer stamps of Transvaal,—are shown a very good lot of the "filling in" stamps, nearly all in fine unused condition. The later scarce "one-penny" surcharges are all here. The later issues are shown complete, unused, and include many varieties of surcharge.

A fine lot of the early stamps of Trinidad, both unused in pairs and used are shown, there being one or two whole rows devoted to each stamp. Of the lithographs there are twelve copies of the blue, including one very fine copy on thick paper, used on part of the letter. These also include some fine early impressions. The pin-perforate sets are well filled, the best of them being the shilling pin-perforate 14, unused. The next issues until the "C. C." set are largely used, but this later set is shown in good numbers unused. There is a fine copy of the one-penny manuscript surcharge in black, used on a piece of the cover, and the rest of this country is complete not only in unused, but also largely in used as well. The Lady McLeod is shown on the full original, and is a beautiful specimen of this scarce stamp.

A superb lot of Turks Island is next shown. Of these may be noted first a fine, lightly cancelled copy of the shilling prune. Among the rare surcharges are the 2 1-2d. on 6d. slate unused No. 19 (the numbers refer to Scott), 2 1-2d. on one-shilling slate-blue—two fine copies, Nos. 21 and 22; the 2 1-2d. on 1d. vermilion—two fine new ones, Nos. 24 and 25. Three of the 2 1-2 on one-shilling prune—all unused and fine, Nos. 26, 27 and 28. Then comes a rarity in an unused copy of the four-pence on one-penny with surcharge inverted, No. 32a. Still two other copies of the four-pence inverted on one-penny, Nos. 33A and 34A follow. These last two are used copies. Following these are two fine copies of the four-pence on one-shilling prune unused and very brilliant, Nos. 35 and 36. The more ordinary surcharges are shown in many types unused, and the rest of the country is complete unused also.

In Tuscany, of the first set on bluish paper, may be noted the one-soldo unused; a very pretty two-soldi used, and a rich deep purple shade of the nine-crazie unused with o. g.—a most beautiful stamp. Then comes a rather mediocre copy of the 60c. used. On the grayish paper there is a very pretty one-soldo unused and a beautiful copy of the nine-crazie with full margins, and o. g. Of the set watermarked "crossed vertical wavy lines" there is an unused copy of the one-soldo and two fine used specimens of the nine-crazie gray-violet. In the next set there is a fine unused copy of the 80c. The "tre lire" is also here, but has rather short margins, although it is lightly cancelled. The less valuable than the ones mentioned are shown practically all unused, and well shaded.

Two Sicilies comprise a pretty lot, nearly all unused. The two rare 1-2t. blue are present, one of which is illustrated. The latter is in reality a very lightly cancelled copy, the illustration not doing it justice.

A very fine lot of Uruguay from a general collector's standpoint is shown. Nearly everything, including the first issue, in fine unused condition is here, but no attempt to specialize has been made until the 1866 surcharges are reached, where a full lot of the errors is shown. The eight-cent green tete-beche, of the unsurcharged set is shown unused in a pair. In the next set many of the errors of spelling, and also the white flag variety on the 5c. are present. The succeeding issues are complete unused and used and include many errors of surcharge and also part perforate and imperforate pairs. The officials are very complete and include several double and inverted surcharges.

Victoria is not as well done as it should be, to rank with the other Australians. None of the first type are unused, though there is a very comprehensive lot of used copies. There are several pairs of each value, the two-pence with fine background and fine border, being exceptional. The three-pence blue is shown rouletted. The two-pence "Queen on throne" has been plated both in the engraved and the lithographed stamps. Then there is a fine pair of the two-pence lithographed, one showing the transfer variety, "TVO." Of the six-pence orange there are several of the serrated and rouletted varieties. Among the copies of the two-shilling imperforate, may be seen a strip of three and several fine singles. There is also a beautiful used copy rouletted.

The "emblems" are strong, but mostly in used copies, there being not over half a dozen unused specimens in the lot. Among them may be seen the one-penny yellow-green, "star," rouletted and also perforated 12. Of the "no watermark" set may be noted the one-penny yellow-green perforated 12, unused, and the two-pence lilac used. With the "watermarked value in words" the unused are in great number, and among the used is a very good six-pence orange, much better than usual. The four-pence rose, "single lined 4" rouletted, is shown in a fine single used. Then appears a rarity in the one-penny green of 1863-4, watermarked "double lined 4," unused, o. g. In passing it is interesting to note, that Dr. Bowers paid $1.75 for this. The five-shillings on yellow is shown only in a used copy, but nevertheless a very fine one. The later issues are very complete, including the various colored papers, all unused. The best stamp in these later issues is a fine used copy of the "Stamp Duty" one-shilling, with blue surcharge. The postal fiscals are a fine lot and include a ten-pound postally used, which bears the signature of Pemberton, Wilson & Co. It is very unusual to see cancelled copies of either the "too late" or "registered," that are legible, but his copies are very fine, as well as the registered, rouletted.

Virgin Islands is here complete, unused, with a generous number of extra shades. The six-pence, perforated 15, is shown on both papers,—white and toned. There are also four unused shillings with the white border.

Of Western Australia,—one of the old favorites,—there is an interesting selection. The two-pence brown on red is shown in a fine single, used, and two also copies in the Indian red shade, one being printed on both sides. There is a whole row of the six-pence bronze in varying conditions, all used, and a fine shilling in a beautiful reddish-chocolate shade, unused. The two-pence rouletted is shown, printed on both sides. Beside all of the rouletted varieties there are several pin-perforations. The later issues are shown unused, although in the case of the two-pence mauve, error, an used copy is his only example. The later issues are very full of fine shades, mostly unused. A great many of the punched stamps—officials—are also here.

Wurtemburg is not very strong, but there may be noted among other things, the 18 kr. blue with orange silk thread, unused; and what is possibly the best stamp in this country—the 9kr. carmine without silk thread, unused, o. g. There is a fine unused 6kr. green, thick paper, perforated 13 1-2, and the later issues are complete, for the most part unused.

Zululand is shown complete, the best stamps being the five-shilling and the five-pound, both unused, o. g., as well as all the others.

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